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**National Center for Preservation Technology and Training  
National Park Service**

**Lee H. Nelson Hall**

**March 30, 2006**

**Minutes  
Preservation Technology and Training Board**

**Preservation Technology and Training Board Members Present:**

Mr. Robert Silman (chair), Mr. Jim Garrison, Mr. Rob Pahl, Dr. Frank Preusser, Ms. Suzanne Turner, Ms. Patricia O'Donnell, Mr. Horace Foxall and Mr. Norman Koonce

**Members absent:** Ms. Suzanne Lewis, Dr. Judith Bense, Mr. Roy Graham and Mr. Norman Weiss.

**Designated Federal Official:** Mr. John Burns

**Northwestern State University of Louisiana Representatives:** Dr. Randy Webb, Dr. Greg Granger.

**National Center for Preservation Technology and Training Staff:** Mr. Kirk Cordell (Executive Director), Mr. Kevin Ammons, Mr. Andy Ferrell, Mr. Jeff Guin (recording), Dr. David Morgan and Dr. Mary Striegel.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Silman called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**Introduction of New Board Members and Special Guests:** Chair Silman welcomed board member Mr. Horace Foxhall, who was attending for the first time. Silman also recognized the Designated Federal Official (DFO), Mr. John Burns.

**Certification of the meeting:** Chair Silman asked Mr. Burns, DFO, to certify the meeting. Mr. Burns informed the board the meeting had been announced in the Federal Register as required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (43 CFR Part 102-3.150 (a)). He certified the meeting and said that a quorum was present in compliance with the Board's by-laws and charter.

**Welcome:** Mr. Silman and Mr. Cordell welcomed the members of the Board and discussed the logistics of the meeting.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Chair Silman asked for comments on the Fall 2005 PTTBoard Meeting Minutes. Ms. Turner made the motion to approve. Dr. Preusser seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**NPS National Report: Cultural Resource Program Status, Budget Outlook, Policy Trends, Status of PTTBoard Membership:** Mr. Burns reported that Secretary Norton will be retiring effective March 31. The Governor of Idaho is being appointed to the post.

He has a mixed environmental record, though he has been generally supportive of parks in his state. He will have to go through an approval process.

Paul Hoffman has been appointed deputy assistant secretary for performance, accountability and human resources. Hoffman wrote the controversial revision of the National Park Service Management Policies guide, which proposed to loosen pollution and activity regulations and prevent the public from suing NPS for not complying with its own management policies. The proposal was subsequently revised and is up for public comment on the NPS website.

**Ms. O'Donnell asked about the review period for the newest version of the draft. Mr. Burns will check into that.**

**Budget Outlook:** Mr. Burns reported that as of February NCPTT is currently in the 2007 presidential budget for the first time in three years. An across-the-board rescission was smaller than feared at less than two percent.

There has been a shuffling of responsibilities and positions at WASO with a lot of positions in acting status. The Chief Historian and Chief of National Register positions are to be advertised.

**Policy Trends:** In Washington, Burns is working with a committee of the National Park Service advisory board which is working on the Preservation Tax Act report. A 22-page draft is out for review. Windows are a contentious issue. Modern laws make things tough for historic windows, which are defined as being more than 50 years old with historic and character defining qualities. One committee member, who owns a hotel, says controlling noise with historic windows is a major issue in that industry.

Ms. O'Donnell asked about the tone of the CR program offices these days. Mr. Burns said there is uncertainty because so many positions still have to be filled.

He also noted that being in the president's budget means they will fight for your program, though it's still up to Congress to approve the budget. Mr. Silman said the agenda is focused on making NCPTT invulnerable to being zeroed out again.

Dr. Morgan asked if Mr. Burns foresaw a change anytime soon in the NPS travel policy prohibiting international travel. NCPTT is missing many important opportunities to share its research and expertise because of this policy.

Mr. Burns said he and Mr. Cordell supported a measure to allow Dr. Morgan to go to Belgium at the request of the National Guard. Most of the expenses were going to be reimbursed, but a deputy director in NPS denied the action.

NPS has been criticized for international travel in the past. Mr. Burns said requests are evaluated on an individual basis and other people are being approved for international travel, however. Many employees are taking personal leave or leave without pay to act on

these opportunities.

Mr. Cordell said there have been four instances in the past six months in which the Center had international involvement where travel was denied. Mr. Burns said the issue is one of policy and not budget.

Mr. Silman asked what the board could do. Ms. O'Donnell said NPS employees should continue to make the travel requests to show the need for international travel and the board should draft a statement supporting lifting the restrictions due to the global impact of NCPTT's work and mission.

Dr. Preusser said requests should be documented well enough to make it tough to reject. Dr. Morgan said the existing documents to justify international travel are already very extensive. Mr. Cordell said he has instructed his staff to request travel when it was needed regardless of policy.

Mr. Garrison moved that the board should send a letter of concern to the director of the Park Service regarding this policy. Mr. Pahl seconded. **The motioned passed unanimously.** Mr. Silman will draft the letter.

Dr. Randy Webb, president of NSU, joined the meeting and welcomed the board members to Natchitoches. He expressed the importance of NCPTT to Natchitoches and NSU. Many changes have occurred. Dr. Kass Byrd, NSU's former NCPTT liaison, retired. Dr. Tom Hanson and Dr. Steve Horton will be the new co-liaisons. Dr. Webb said the new Master of Arts in Heritage Resources that started last fall is going well under the direction of Dr. ElizaBeth Guin and labeled it a cherished program. The destruction from 2005's hurricanes was devastating. Natchitoches was in the path of Rita. More than 1,400 evacuees stayed on campus, some for more than a month. Dr. Webb said he considers NSU's partnership with NCPTT one of the university's most valuable.

Mr. Silman expressed the board's appreciation for the University's support.

**9:49 a.m. State of the Center:** Mr. Cordell welcomed preservationist Saidee Newell to the meeting. The State of the Center is good and is even strengthened since the last meeting.

**Personnel:** Staff members Andy Ferrell and Mary Streigel were detailed to FEMA in the hurricane recovery efforts. Other staff members have contributed to FEMA as well. NCPTT continues to be active in the recovery efforts and partnered in the development of wet recovery workshops held across Louisiana over the past few weeks.

Staff members continue to present papers and go to professional meetings to raise the Center's profile in the field of preservation and within NPS.

NCPTT's Summer Institute will begin in June, comprised of archeology, architecture and cemetery training. The regional CMC workshop will be held in Virginia City, Nevada in

September.

Cordell and Lance Ellis attended a course on the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which will affect the board somewhat. These rules will be reviewed in tomorrow's discussions.

With the departure of Lou Gallegos, the Center is looking for another board member.

**Members were asked to have their pictures taken at some point in the meeting so that the pictures and bios could be posted on the website.**

**Ms. O'Donnell said the board members should write one-paragraph biographies illustrating their geographic and disciplinary diversity and send them to NCPTT for the website.**

Mr. Silman instructed the board to write their 100-word bios within the next week and send them to Cordell electronically.

Kim Bowen left the Center recently to take a management position at LSU in Baton Rouge. The Heritage Education coordinator position was advertised and interviews are expected to begin next week.

The paperwork hiring Andy Ferrell's previous position is in Washington preparing to be advertised.

Paperwork for the chief of historic landscapes position is being prepared.

NCPTT has advertised for six summer interns and many quality applications have been received.

The Materials Research program was awarded a NPS diversity internship.

The National Cemetery Association is sending a fellow to NCPTT. NCA will be paying for travel and salary costs.

The NCPTT organizational chart has been reorganized and is in the board notebooks.

**Building:** A new surround sound system was recently installed as well as new multimedia presentation equipment. Exterior windows are being repainted, remediating premature paint loss. As the board meets, a handicap ramp is currently being constructed for the front entrance of the building. Jeffrey Carbo from Alexandria, La., has been hired to implement the Lee Nelson Hall landscape plan. Construction and planting should take place later in the year.

After Secretarial approval of the 2004 Annual Report, the publication was sent to the White House, the congressional delegation and NCPTT mailing list with NCPTT's product catalog. A rough draft of the 2005 Report will be distributed to the Board today

for comment.

About \$400,000 has been budgeted for the PTTGrants program this year. Suzanne Turner is the Board representative to the grants review panel, which will be held April 12 in Natchitoches.

**Marketing/Website:** The website continues to see increased traffic, with the product catalog seeing a phenomenal increase.

A list of recent acquisitions for the library is in the board notebooks. Comments are invited for the library list.

**Budget:** NCPTT submitted a request for an operating increase for 2008. The Center has never submitted such a request before. Nelson Hall has some major issues that need to be fixed.

**Program Activities:** Mr. Cordell highlighted program activities that will be reported in detail later in the meeting.

In January Mr. Cordell and Mr. Ferrell participated in the annual face-to-face meeting of the Education Committee of AIA's Historic Resources Committee, whose activities the Center supports with both staff and financial resources. Working with this group on such initiatives as the Cranbrook Seminar, which this year is devoted to Preservation Education. The Center was invited back for the AIA Sustainability Roundtable, which fit well with the Center's current interest in this topic.

Proposed Cooperative Agreements with US/ICOMOS and APT, both still in early stages of development, both focused on partnerships, training, internships, and research. The limewash durability study was expanded and research is now complete. Research Assistant Sarah Jackson and Dr. Striegel will present findings at the Traditional Building Conference in April and at the AIC meeting in June

Dr. Morgan will meet with the Archeological Technology Research Consortium at the SAA meeting in Puerto Rico in April and present a paper there as well. The Center hopes for concrete plans to come out of this meeting for effecting change in remote sensing policy and practice

After several years of false starts, the Western Region of the NPS successfully used NCPTT grant funds to host a preservation seminar in Pohnpei, Micronesia, with an excellent slate of instructors. Student evaluations were glowing and Dr. Morgan, as grant manager for the project, has plenty of documentation on it. Jason Church has completed phase one of the cemetery cleaning study for the Department of Veterans Affairs and is beginning his rounds of field visits for the next phase of the work.

Just over \$47,000 has been allocated for Heritage Education grants for FY06. Transfer of money to the Louisiana SHPO has been arranged, though the SHPO says they may

administer the grants in the Historic Preservation Division instead of the Archeology Division this year, as they expect to have their own heritage education grants program this year out of that Division

**NSU Partner Reports:** Ms. Laura Gates, superintendent of Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI), stated she was previously an architectural historian and is now in charge of 65 historic structures at CARI. She offered to provide a tour of the park for the board members. She said budget issues continue to be a concern with stated budgets being significantly less by the time they reach the parks. She gave a brief history of CARI and the Cane River National Heritage Area (CRNHA). She stated the importance of leveraging funds with partnerships in such times and referenced the limewash study performed in conjunction with researchers at NCPTT. Preservation Briefs may come out of this effort.

Federal executives in the area meet regularly to discuss issues in dealing with management in the government, including budget issues.

CARI staff have attended the Summer Institute and provided tours for Summer Institute staff.

CARI annually hosts a Youth Conservation Corps group during which they visit the Center. Students are taught character and work ethic.

Dr. Nancy Morgan, executive director of the (CRNHA), distributed a briefing sheet and summarized the program's activities.

The City of Natchitoches and CRNHA received one of the first Preserve America grants to implement a signage program. Preserve America has been championed by the Bush administration.

The Heritage area is planning a visitor's center off of Interstate 49.

NCPTT and the Center will jointly sponsor an intern working with the GIS program. Details are still to be worked out.

Ms. O'Donnell asked about how the visitors center will be handled, as an information center or something else and how sustainable the building would be.

Ms. Gates said the partnership has a place picked out for the building but there are many "ifs" at this point. Much depends on the organizations' ability to find funds for exhibits. She reiterated the dire nature of the NPS budget.

Ms. O'Donnell said that there are rules for fit-outs that can help make the CARI and Heritage area efforts on the building sustainable. She said exhibits can be made to fit the budget and expanded later. She also said the iPod phenomenon can help make tours more cost effective. Visitors can make a donation to have an interpretive sound file

downloaded for them to tour on their own.

Ms. Gates said the hyperlink <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> contains a plan for the park, which is available for comment.

Ms. O'Donnell asked about how comprehensive the GIS mapping will be.

Dr. Nancy Morgan said the GIS program would be implemented as activities develop that will need it.

Dr. Greg Granger, acting head of the NSU School of Social Sciences, spoke about the Heritage Resources graduate program.

Graduates are required to complete service learning hours. Students attended NCPTT's wet recovery workshops. Local NPS staff members have lectured in the classes. The program has students from every region of the country except the Northwest. The state Board of Regents recently approved a new Bachelor's of Heritage Resources at NSU, which will be a feeder for the Master's Program

School of Social Sciences faculty members have reviewed PTT Grants as well.

#### **11:15-11:30 BREAK**

**Budget:** Mr. Kevin Ammons spoke about the budget. The NSU employee costs are combined with the federal employees costs in this board report and reflect 51 percent of the total budget going to personnel costs. The HVAC system has been problematic and needs to be replaced.

The Center is exploring a partnership that will allow some international cooperation through U.S. ICOMOS.

A new five-year agreement is being worked out with APT since the two organizations have very similar goals.

Printing and janitorial work are funded through NSU. Other funding includes the NPS Tel-Net satellite training system and a corneal imaging product.

**2006 PTTGrants program:** Dr. Mary Striegel reported a total of 45 complete applications requesting about \$2 million. Grants awards may total as much as \$400,000 if enough worthy projects are received.

Andy Ferrell reported improvement in the online process over the past three years. The review process includes sending grants to reviewers in categories, who rank the proposals. Twenty proposals will be going to the final review panel, of which approximately 12 will be funded.



Reviewer comments will be available online in the future for the benefit of those wishing to know why their proposals were not selected.

David Morgan said proposals have declined gradually over the past few years. The current application pool may be deciding that applying for a PTTGrant is not worth the effort. Morgan requested the board's expertise in reversing the trend, if needed.

Mr. Weiss said this could be a process of self-selection in which applicants are realizing their non-relevant or inferior proposals will never be funded.

Dr. Morgan said many of the grants he recently saw in review were not high quality.

Dr. Preusser said there was no problem getting enough high-quality projects to fund when he served on the review panel last year. As long as there are enough quality grants to fund, NCPTT shouldn't worry about how many poorer quality submissions it gets.

Mr. Koonce said the Call for Proposals requests should be very specific to grow certain areas of research.

Dr. Striegel said research priorities do this to a certain extent. She said it will be hard for NCPTT to request more funding when fewer proposals are coming in. She is concerned that the Center has too many repeat applicants who know how to successfully apply for a PTTGrant.

Ms. O'Donnell agreed with Weiss' comments about self-selection. She said the fact that past applicants were coming back for follow-up grants indicates confidence in the NCPTT system and mentoring among the past grants recipients to extend research. **This allows the Center to excel in targeted areas of research and leverage its limited funds. She said the past grants lists and bar charts should be included on the website so people can tell if their projects have a chance of being funded. She added that 100-word testimonials from past grant applicants may instill confidence also.**

Mr. Weiss asked if staff were allowed to give information to applicants that will indicate potential partner programs that could match funds.

Dr. Morgan said this could only be done in a conversation before the application was submitted.

Dr. Preusser said we should not be involved in directing people to other organizations anyway. The applicant should be resourceful enough to figure those things out.

Mr. Foxall said the bar chart demonstrates that early on, there was a very small chance in getting a grant and many people aren't coming back because of that memory. He also mentioned shaking up the mailing list may help bring up numbers.

**Architecture and Engineering:** Mr. Ferrell reported he worked with FEMA in October

to assess buildings damaged by the hurricanes. He assessed buildings in the 20 landmark districts affected, with special consideration for red-tagged buildings. He also worked with the Louisiana SHPO to determine Ponchartrain Park's eligibility for landmark status.

The Summer Institute has two additional programs that begin in June. This is a venue for NCPTT's partners as well.

NCPTT signed a five-year cooperative agreement to work with the AIA Historic Resources Committee to incorporate preservation training in architecture programs.

Mr. Ferrell is trying to find partners for a program on Sustainable Preservation.

An article on concrete is being developed to submit to the APT Bulletin as a product of the research being funded by NCPTT at the Athenaeum in Philadelphia.

The NCPTT landscape plan balances safety, functionality and faithfulness to the historic nature of the landscape. It is available for board members to review.

**Archeology and Collections:** Dr. Morgan reported that Kim Eppler was hired as a summer intern to assist with the Summer Institute.

NCPTT participated in the Preserving the World's Heritage workshop with NPS and Hamline University. Mr. Cordell and Dr. Morgan both contributed papers to the workshop, which will result in a publication through a university press.

Morgan discovered significant architectural remnants in a test trench during research on Creole identity formation. This information will be used in the "Prospection in Depth" Summer Institute training. Brochures were just distributed to over 8,000 archeology professionals. Three people have already applied.

Morgan just presented at the "Who Owns the Past?" meeting at the Enome Center in Belgium, which was very informative and important. He traveled on his own time at the Louisiana National Guard's expense, since the National Park Service would not approve the trip.

The Archeology and Collections web presence is being designed and will be improved in the coming months.

Research Investigations:

- Cost benefit study of conventional versus robotic total stations
- Laser diffraction particle size analyzer pedogenesis

A research priority for archeology is being developed. A draft was crafted last year.

Ms. Turner asked how many spots are available for Prospection in Depth.

Dr. Morgan said courses will have no more than 25 participants. Five student scholarships are available.

Mr. Silman asked if Dr. Morgan could develop some kind of training for the NPS since archeology is considered very important in the Park Service.

Dr. Morgan said the summer institute could fill some of this need

**1:45 Materials Research:** Mary Striegel reported that the project for the Department of Veteran's Affairs "Evaluation of Cleaners for Federally-Issued Headstones," is proceeding according to plan. Initial work has been done at five VA cemeteries across the country, chosen for their geographic and climatic distribution. There are 48 stones per cemetery.

A project on "Durability of Modified and Traditional Limewashes" has been undertaken in partnership with Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Research includes 12 limewash recipes applied to wood and brick samples. The preliminary report on wood is complete. Testing methods included ASTM standards. Final test results were complete this week.

Research is finished on the project for the General Services Administration, "Evaluation of Vitrification as a Treatment for Terrazzo," and the report is complete. The project evaluated how the vitrification process changes terrazzo.

NCPTT's research on air pollution deposition on consolidated stone will soon be on track after upgrades to the environmental chamber.

The Materials Research Program has also been researching alkoxygermanes as potential stone consolidants. Striegel said the synthesized mixtures did not result in an effective new consolidant, but one substance seems to add biocidal characteristics to one of the commercial products. Last week, the researchers received bacteria that will help further of this project.

Work has been done to develop new audiences, research, workshops and lectures for NCPTT's National Cemetery Preservation Initiative. The Monument Builders of North America (MBNA) organization, which has been a strong advocate for the initiative to people in the field, has nominated NCPTT for the Association of Gravestone Studies' Forbes award. MBNA has also invited NCPTT to hold a workshop at its next national conference.

Last weekend, MRP staff held a Cemetery Conservation Basics class in Oklahoma. This is the program's "public face." Registration was \$25 per person and focused on amateur or non-preservationists who are interested in cemeteries

The 2006 Cemetery Monument Conservation workshop will be September 26-28 in

Virginia City, Nevada. This year's special focus is on the conservation of wooden headstones, which are common in the Southwest.

The CMC Advanced Cemetery Techniques workshop will be held as part of the Summer Institute. The workshop is open to people who previously took a CMC course.

NCPTT worked in conjunction with the American Institute for Conservation to produce the workshop series, "After the Storm: Recovery of Wet Collections," which was held in March. Workshops were held throughout Louisiana:

- March 16, National D-day Museum, New Orleans
- March 17, LSU Rural Life Museum, Essen Lane, Baton Rouge
- March 20, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, Natchitoches

These workshops provided attendees with hands-on training in treating museum and archival objects that had been immersed in water.

Dr. Striegel said that during her FEMA detail, she visited the New Orleans Clerk of Court, which is responsible for the evidence rooms. The evidence rooms were submerged at levels of 8-10 feet. She also assisted at Dillard University and Dr. Michael White, who is a professor at Xavier University and a musician who lost all of his instruments.

Mr. Silman asked about the potential impact of the Terrazzo study and would anyone with a terrazzo floor be interested in this research. He said building managers groups may be interested in having a presentation of the research. Striegel said she believed the research does have that potential.

**Dr. Preusser asked if abrasion tests were included in the terrazzo study, as it is a major concern. Striegel said that could be easily added to the project if the Center has enough samples left over.**

Ms. O'Donnell asked about coefficient of friction standards. Striegel said this was considered.

**Wingspread Conference:** Mr. Silman referenced the Sustainability Conference discussed at the last board meeting. He said the goal for this conference would be fall 2007. The board previously agreed to pursue development of this conference.

Silman said he is interested in the "why" of this topic rather than the "how-to," which has already been covered many times. He wished to explore how to organize and implement the conference. He called for discussion.

Ms. O'Donnell said she has been in meetings in which such declarations have been made. She said it takes much planning because position papers should be distributed and discussed. No one has crystallized the link between preservation and sustainability. Preservation is inherently sustainable because it's about reusing.

Mr. Foxall said proper management should be considered as key to sustainability.

Mr. Silman asked who among the board would participate in organizing the conference. In addition to Silman, volunteers included Foxall, O'Donnell, Preusser, Garrison, Turner, Weiss, and Koonce.

The board decided to have the accompanying board meeting after the conference since planning would still be going on before.

Mr. Silman said the nature of the Wingspread Conference "traps" participants in a scenic and remote location that encourages interaction.

Mr. Foxall said the board should be a trendsetter in this area, since much of the focus has been on how to implement a concept without much thought into its meaning.

Mr. Silman asked who should be invited to the conference. The board's role should be as a convener of experts.

Ms. Turner said she thinks the conference should start off very conceptual before addressing policy issues as no one would want to hear two days of policy discussion.

Dr. Preusser said in architecture, this concept is about making a structure last longer. Conversely, conservators' concepts of sustaining are putting something storage or archives.

O'Donnell said she participated in a conference in Vienna that was politically charged and sought to place its imprint on policy. However, there were some very good papers presented in advance, including Heritage Area case studies, so there was substantive material for discussion. She also cited the example one of her clients who used synergistic and common sense choices to accomplish sustainability on their farm property, despite having little money. Their mission is respect for the place, which is what preservation deals with. In order to go to the policy discussion and charter declaration, you need the shared examples of attendees.

Dr. Preusser said some conservation treatments are not reversible but have to be done. These exceptions need to be considered in this conference.

Mr. Foxall said a variety of professionals need to be invited. Dr. Preusser said at least one person needs to come from outside preservation.

Mr. Silman said this event could be an internationally attended event since it will be funded privately. The purpose of this conference is to strengthen the Center and not the board. This conference goes back to the basics to provide a basis for sustainability that doesn't now exist.

**Lee H. Nelson Award:** Mr. Silman asked where this project was currently. Pat Tiller and

Roy Graham had championed this effort.

Mr. Cordell said APT is developing a Lee Nelson award as well. Mr. Weiss and Ms. O'Donnell said having two Lee Nelson awards would dilute its importance. Dr. Striegel said NCPTT being a part of the APT effort may result in more coverage for the Center.

Mr. Burns said APT founding members died recently and the organization is struggling with how to create awards in their names that are slightly different.

O'Donnell said the Center and board should begin discussions with APT about a joint effort. Mr. Weiss will approach APT.

**Mr. Burns volunteered to talk to Pat Tiller about his continued involvement.**

**Preservation Crafts Training:** Mr. Silman showed a document that Roy Graham sent about this topic. He was asked by Graham to have the board consider a meeting about how to teach preservation to people working in traditional building.

Mr. Cordell asked if the board had the resources to have a meeting on this scale.

Dr. Preusser stated that the need for this is too big for the Center or even the Getty to handle.

Mr. Cordell said the Center could help in convening part of the effort, but not the larger objectives.

Mr. Weiss said the National Trust abandoned a similar effort years ago.

O'Donnell said the NCPTT's representation of this could include having referral links on the website. This is a UNESCO topic that is global. Also, the technology component is missing.

Mr. Cordell said NCPTT is small enough that it has to focus.

Mr. Pahl said the market has to be developed in this area before people will be willing to make the investment.

Mr. Garrison said that in the West, there is a perception that hands-on people are leaving the National Park Service.

Mr. Burns relayed the information that Laura Gates was losing her trades people because many of them have been project funded rather than base funded. This is not unique to the West.

**Establishing a 501(c) 3: Renewing the Friends of NCPTT:** Mr. Silman broached the idea of bringing back the friends groups for NCPTT.

Ms. Saidee Newell said there was a statewide effort to establish a group when the Center was formed. There are currently funds in the Northwestern State University Foundation, of which Newell is president. There was never a 501(c)3, but the funds are available for transfer if needed. A professional consultant was brought in who suggested spending \$50,000 for a feasibility study, but the money was never raised.

Mr. Koonce initiated discussion on forming a group. He said it costs money to start and manage a group. It would have to be established and operated completely independently of NCPTT. He says contributions can be made from corporations, organizations and individuals. To qualify, there has to be a compelling need for support. The process includes a detailed 28-page document. Several attachments are required. It will take about 100 hours to compile, but odds of approval are good. The first step would be to incorporate the Friends group in Louisiana and then have incorporators to take over the legal formation of the group. A CPA and lawyer are recommended for the process. A management structure or board would have to be put in place for management of the group and fund. Bylaws would have to be clearly defined.

Dr. Preusser said the ideal board should consist of people with name recognition and connections. Someone has to be willing to actively ask for the money or otherwise raise funds. Two major expenditures exist: one for the legal aspect and one for the people who would establish the group.

Mr. Koonce said a quality-consulting firm is the best method to go about establishing such a group. It takes a large investment to get a quality expert on board to manage the group. Dr. Preusser agreed and said it is an interactive process.

Dr. Striegel said the process should be broken down into small steps to get the friends group off the ground. The need exists, as NCPTT is unable to take money for its training and products.

Ms. Newell said NSU exceeded its goal in raising capital and had a consultant come up from New Orleans to get the effort started one and a half years ago. She suggested getting all the money in one place before initiating the 501(c)3. Ms. Turner asked if the NSU staff are professional fundraisers. Ms. Newell said they are not, though they have some training.

Ms. Turner said this is not an effort that should be undertaken unless there is a larger purpose than moving money around. No one would want to be on a board that is essentially a façade.

Mr. Weiss said the possible uses of 501(c)3 funds should be listed as a first step in determining the worth of establishing one.

**Mr. Pahl said the "friends" would have to be identified initially. Mr. Weiss said many past board members are looking for a way to be involved and could**

**potentially be involved.**

Mr. Cordell said there are 501(c)3 groups affiliated with many NPS groups.

**New Directions for Heritage Education:** Mr. Cordell said Senator Landrieu had the original idea for Heritage Education. The program was added as a \$250,000 add-on to the Center's budget by congressman McCrery for two years before it became an unfunded mandate. This year there is no instruction on the program at all. The Center will keep the program going on a smaller scale. How do we leverage the model nationally without the funds? There has been interest in implementing the program, but none have implemented it as of yet. The new program coordinator will need to pursue grants.

Mr. Silman was glad to see the Heritage Education job description included fundraising. It should not be hard to raise funds because it is a great idea.

Mr. Weiss said Senator Landrieu's office should be pressed to help this idea that was initially her idea.

Ms. Turner asked how the program is connected with the Louisiana Department of Cultural Recreation and Tourism. Lt. Governor Landrieu (Senator Landrieu's brother) has a major interest in this area. There are many grants opportunities in the CRT office that could help reposition the program.

**Mr. Silman asked Mr. Cordell to follow up with CRT. The new coordinator should go into the position with a national focus.**

Ms. O'Donnell said we should look for programs that NCPTT's Heritage Education program can learn from or partner with.

Mr. Cordell said his goal is to make the program self-sustaining.

Mr. Foxall said some small heritage education programs may be willing to adopt the program if the website was useful and portable enough. **The National Teachers Association may have grants opportunities. Mr. Foxall will look in to this. He said the program should package an "adoption" kit.**

Dr. Striegel said the program was developed not as extracurricular activities, but as a standards-based program that will work best in the core curriculum. The program would have to be incorporated to each state's curriculum.

**March 31, 2006**

**Committee Discussion Minutes  
Preservation Technology and Training Board**



**Sustainability Conference:** Discussion continued from the day before on the topic of a Wingspread Conference about the "why" of sustainability.

Ms. O'Donnell said the result of this conference would be a charter, or statement of principles in the practice of preservation. This effort intersects preservation and sustainability. The audience is both communities.

Mr. Weiss pointed to a triangle model of considerations, balancing environment, sustainability and preservation.

Mr. Ferrell said people have different ideas about the scope of sustainability, including ecological, cultural, historical, etc.

Mr. Weiss said there is a struggle between preservation and environmentalism, citing an example where environmental laws have prohibited him from sustaining and repairing objects with certain materials. These objects will probably crumble in a decade and have to be replaced with stones from overseas quarries.

Mr. Silman asked about the topic of deliverables for the conference.

Ms. O'Donnell said the triangular model mentioned by Mr. Weiss should be addressed. She says in her personal practice, she records inspecting and maintaining where conservation treatments have been applied. The ICOMOS Natchitoches declaration from two years ago was two pages. The New Orleans declaration addressed the intersection of collections and historic museum structures. There are usually philosophical and action statements with supporting precedent documents. In ICOMOS meetings, papers are presented before the conference. She suggested this would be the way to go in planning a conference on sustainability.

Dr. Morgan said if people have a good mission statement to begin with, they have a good idea of where to start with their papers. Mr. Silman asked what would be done with the resulting document.

Morgan said the NCPTT website would be a good venue for public consideration. Mr. Cordell said the Center could fund a publication. Mr. Silman said publication costs would be included in the conference budget. A University Press may be interested in publishing the document.

Ms. Turner said podcasts should be considered to help make the program more inclusive to interested people worldwide.

O'Donnell said the Natchitoches ICOMOS meeting including writing all the pre-papers to a CD, including PowerPoint presentations. She was asked to write a 20-page paper in Sept. 04 and reissued the CD to gather the data from the meeting. The CD is available for purchase through US/ICOMOS. She doesn't know how practical it would be for this

meeting. The information is also available through the website.

Mr. Foxall said practicing people don't have time to read long journal articles. Better parsed information in a newsletters and informational flyers (brochures) will better focus the information and make it palatable to the practitioners that don't have time for a lot of reading. Mr. Pahl said the expertise of the board and their affiliations can help disseminate the information.

Mr. Koonce asked if there was clarity on the principles of the conference.

Mr. Silman said discussion would have to continue between the board meetings to completely iron out this issue. However, deadlines have to be set to get the concept and conference plan in place. Ms. Turner said specific names for the conference should be agreed on while the entire board was in the same room.

Mr. Silman asked who should lead the conference. Should it be someone from the inside or outside. This person will literally run the whole conference. O'Donnell said people who are event organizers usually don't have a grasp on the subject matter. The moderators should come from the board.

Cordell said Mr. Silman should organize the event because of his expertise and interpersonal skills.

Mr. Burns said he is concerned about the lack of sustainability people involved. If the board is organizing and moderating, preservation would be well represented but not the field of sustainability. The persons should ideally include sustainability people who have dealt with preservation issues.

O'Donnell recommended Mr. Wiess should write a background paper, connecting the dots between sustainability and environmentalism. Weiss was concerned his experience is too technology oriented.

### **BREAK: Tour of Labs**

**11:01 Federal Advisory Committee Act.** Mr. Cordell briefed the group on FACA rules that govern federal committees. Seven thousand committees are currently listed. About 22 percent have technical or scientific focus like the PTTBoard. The DFO position is responsible for ensuring rules are followed and reflect the public interest. There are special rules for federal employees on these boards. The board sets bylaws and there is flexibility about how the meetings are handled, including voting procedures, etc.

When the board meets in full, it has to be listed in the Federal Register. Subcommittees are not required to follow these rules, but records must be kept and reported to the full board. All information regarding the meeting has to be made public. The Center intends to put the information on the web. O'Donnell agreed that members should get the information from the web, print it and bring it to the meeting. Mr. Silman agreed and the

board agreed that they could print the board report contents at home and bring them to the meeting. NCPTT can save the money on binders and shipping this way.

Mr. Silman asked if the board knew how to use the board forum and encouraged them to frequent the site.

**Reprise of Wingspread Discussion:** Mr. Silman asked about honoraria for participants at the Sustainability Conference. Dr. Preusser said an honorarium of \$150 is insulting to most professionals. Ms. O'Donnell said the best way to go is to cover expenses rather than award an honorarium.

Mr. Silman said the conference would range in \$20-25,000; Travel is \$10-15,000 range. He will send a copy of the budget to the board members.

Mr. Silman said the first task is to research what has been done so this conference does not duplicate it. He asked who would like to do the initial gathering of information, including related charters. O'Donnell said she would take care of this task.

Mr. Silman asked who was interested in taking care of the budget. Since he has put in an initial draft of the budget, he would take over this task.

Mr. Cordell asked what kind of person the board intended to keynote the conference. Mr. Silman said they would lean toward a sustainability person who has dealt with preservation issues, though that person may not exist.

**Reprise of 501(c)3 Discussion:** Mr. Silman asked where the Friends 501(c)3 would be located and would there need to be a part-time staff member. O'Donnell said Natchitoches is the logical place since the Center had roots here and no one should be hired at the outset.

Mr. Cordell said the NSU Foundation could help with some administrative tasks in the beginning.

Mr. Koonce said there should be clear separation between NCPTT and the Friends group. He will look into legal and accounting advice and will report back on how to move forward.

Dr. Striegel said there were two efforts to get such a group off the ground. The first effort was to raise funds to do a feasibility study. The second effort tried to make an endowed position. Money from both efforts are in two different places. Mr. Silman said he would work with Mr. Cordell to look at getting this money into the same place.

Mr. Silman brought up the topic of picking board members to be a part of the Friends group. Ms. O'Donnell said all former board members should be approached for their interest. Mr. Silman suggested former NPS employees who were affiliated with the Center may have an interest in serving. Mr. Cordell suggested Roger or Frances Kennedy

to serve as honorary chairs.

Mr. Silman said the forum is necessary for the board to be effective and that depends on the entire board being involved in the discussion. He also asked if there were any ideas for long-term initiatives. He hopes to make the board's actions focused internally rather than solely on the Center's business.

Ms. Turner said the Center needs to help other NPS units, starting with the organizations in Natchitoches who are strapped for money.

Dr. Preusser suggested having a meeting of NPS personnel at the Center to show them how NCPTT can help them.

Cordell said focusing on the issues of Parks could be done, but not the budget problems. The issue of neglected resources is a hot issue throughout the National Park Service.

Mr. Silman thanked everyone for contributing to the meeting and encouraged everyone to continue to participate.

Mr. Burns gave Mr. Cordell an award for 25 years of service to the National Park Service.

**Wrap-up:** The board will hold its next meeting Oct. 16-17 in Yellowstone National Park.

Mr. Silman asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Turner made the motion and Dr. Preusser seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned.

<b>FY 2006 NCPTT Budget</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Obligated/Expended</b>
Personnel -- Object Classes 11 & 12	706,225.00	689,768.26
Personnel	706,225.00	689,768.26
Travel -- Object Class 21	101,000.00	94,700.00
NCPTT Staff Travel	64,000.00	68,200.00
NCPTT Board Travel (13 members inc. 26 r/t)	25,000.00	17,500.00
NCPTT Invited Travel	12,000.00	9,000.00
Transportation of Things -- Object Class 22	55,700.00	5,645.39
GEN -- Move New Hires to LA	50,000.00	
GEN -- Express Mail	5,700.00	5,645.39
Rent, Communications, and Utilities -- Object Class 23	39,600.00	49,205.65
GEN -- Utilities -- Nelson Hall	28,000.00	36,800.26
GEN -- Phone Service	6,000.00	6,335.85
GEN -- GSA vehicle	4,500.00	4,269.54
MRP -- Storage	1,100.00	1,800.00
Printing & Reproduction -- Object Class 24	1,000.00	
GEN -- Reproduction	1,000.00	
Other Services -- Object Class 25.1	40,000.00	48,799.27
GEN -- Copier Maintenance and Toner	2,000.00	5,515.46
GEN -- Maintenance -- Nelson Hall	14,000.00	8,228.13
MRP -- Lab Equipment and Software Service Contracts	7,500.00	7,472.46
GEN -- Print Advertising	1,000.00	560.25
IT -- Firewall Service Contract	2,500.00	4,686.29
MRKT -- Conference Displays and Fees	6,000.00	5,783.20
GEN -- MS Outlook assesment for 18 Comp. @ 375/computer	7,000.00	7,000.00
MRP -- Equipment Rental		2,314.30
MRP -- Move Laser		7,239.18
Other Services -- 25.2	9,000.00	2,830.92
GEN -- Staff Training	9,000.00	2,830.92
Supplies -- Object Class 26	73,500.00	52,504.36
GEN -- Books and Subscriptions	10,000.00	6,548.49
IT -- Software	12,000.00	11,587.36
GEN -- Office Supplies	25,000.00	20,489.00
MRP -- Lab and Project Supplies	23,500.00	11,512.38
GEN -- Equipment Non-Capitalized		2,367.13
GEN -- Furniture	3,000.00	
Capital Equipment -- Object Class 31	15,000.00	74,931.43
IT -- Equipment	12,000.00	22,231.43
IT -- Replace Large Projection Screen	3,000.00	
MRP -- Portable XRF		52,700.00
Grants, Cooperative Agreements and Projects -- Object Class 41	861,975.00	883,856.92
GEN -- PTT Competitive Grants	417,475.00	269,400.00
GEN -- National Gallery of Art IA from PTT Grant Program		13,300.00

GEN -- ICOMOS CA	10,000.00	
GEN -- NCPTT NSU CA (Personnel, Janitorial, Info. Dissem.)	300,000.00	423,675.00
MRP -- NSU CA Establish Laser Research Facility		3,000.00
IT -- Corneal Imaging of Historic Photos Seed Project	10,000.00	
HE -- Heritage Ed Mini Grants (through LA SHPO)	50,000.00	50,000.00
MRP -- Cemetery Telnet Course	3,000.00	
MRP -- Cemetery Preservation Workshops	5,000.00	10,184.00
AE -- NJIT CA		20,000.00
AE -- APT 2006 Annual Meeting		2,500.00
AE -- Tulane CA, Blue Tarp		25,000.00
GEN -- Research Interns [included in NSU CA]	30,000.00	
AC -- MWAC		9,697.92
AC -- Summer Institute Archeology	17,000.00	
AE -- Summer Institute: Engineering	17,000.00	16,850.00
AE -- Preservation Engineering Video	2,500.00	
MRP-- Diversity Intern, SCA CA		5,250.00
GEN -- CA Quebec Labrador Foundation, Evaluating Her. Areas		35,000.00
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$1,903,000</b>	<b>1,902,242.20</b>

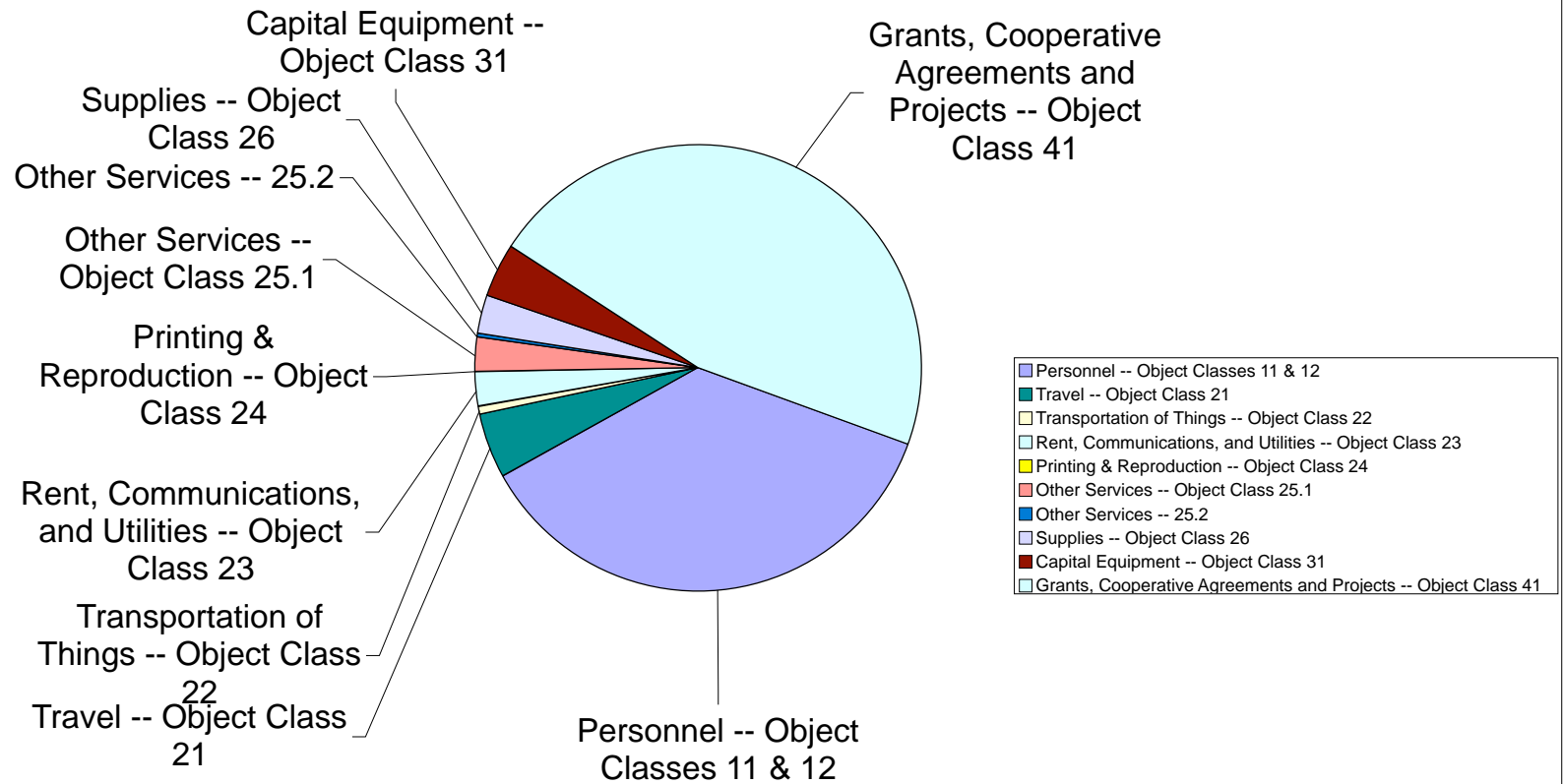
## BUILDING

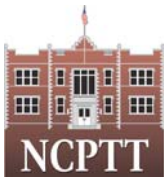
### FIXED COSTS (extracted from above items)

Utilities	36,800.26
GSA vehicle	4,269.54
Copier Maintenance and Toner	5,515.46
Maintenance -- Nelson Hall	8,228.13
Lab Equipment and Software Service Contracts	7,472.46
Phone Service	6,335.85
Janitorial (in NSU CA)	18,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>86,621.70</b>

AC = Archeology and Collections  
 AE = Architcture and Engineering  
 HE = Heritage Education  
 IT = Information Technology  
 GEN = Center-wide activities  
 MRKT = Marketing  
 MRP = Materials Research Program

# FY 2006 NCPTT Budget





*The information technology component of NCPTT continues to evolve as it takes on a greater role in the mission of the Center. Each of the IT component's four elements saw an increase in activity during FY 2006.*

### **Grants and Projects**

NCPTT's Web Developer, Sean Clifford, continues to revamp and streamline the PTT grants system. NCPTT now has an in-house automated system that allows users flexibility in producing their grant applications as well as easing the task of managing the grants program for the staff.

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### **Internet Program**

NCPTT is a leader in the electronic dissemination of information. A major focus of the program has been the continuing development of NCPTT's website to deliver preservation information and NCPTT products to the preservation community. A great deal of the credit for the increased traffic of the website is the addition of an on-line catalog. This has been an exciting development as the Center strives to project a stronger presence in the preservation community through its electronic outlet.

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### **In-office Computer Systems**

Both hardware and software capabilities change rapidly in today's business environment. Utilizing current computer technologies facilitates the accomplishment of NCPTT's mission. Information management staffers are responsible for keeping in-office systems current, updated, and functioning properly.

In an effort to protect NCPTT data and systems from intruders a firewall was installed, a disaster recovery plan has been written and implemented and a plan is currently being developed to address a catastrophe to the workstations and servers. Additionally, NCPTT's workstations were equipped with UPS backup systems to combat power outages and rogue surges. The measures have made NCPTT's data and equipment more insulated from attacks and disasters. Early in FY 2006 the GIS server was upgraded to ArcView 9.1 in preparation for the hosting of a GPS/GIS class conducted by NSU professors. The Cane River National Heritage Area's GIS database that is housed at NCPTT on the Center's GIS server was the focal point of the class.

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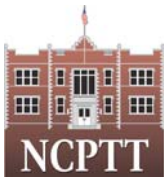
## TELNPS

The Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) Network permits thousands of National Park Service employees to receive competency-based training at or near their work site at little or no cost. The Network will soon reach over 135 receiving stations across the Service. The highly interactive training allows students immediate access to their instructors and is a key component to the success of the broad and varied training opportunities.

During FY2006, 22 classes were taken at NCPTT with 109 participants. Some of those participating were staff from the Cane River Creole National Historical Park and the Cane River National Heritage Area. The Center's TELNPS system is scheduled for an upgrade in equipment in early FY2007.

The installation of the TELNPS station at NCPTT has provided Center employees and NPS employees from the surrounding area with the opportunity to gain high quality training specific to their jobs at a convenient location. The Center is excited to be a part of the NPS's continued growth of interactive distance learning activities.





## NCPTT LIBRARY

The NCPTT Library operates as the Center's research library, providing references and resources for all center staff and researchers. Primary emphasis is on preservation technology, rehabilitation, and the cultural disciplines represented by the Center's staff. Over the past two years the Center has made a substantial commitment to increasing its holdings in these areas. In the past six months approximately 50 books have been added to the Center's collection.

NPS recently began a nationwide initiative to improve library services throughout the system. This program establishes library management policies and provides professional guidance and technical support to NPS libraries at all levels. It also promotes the use of current technology and partnerships to facilitate access to all information by and about the National Park Service. As part of this initiative, NCPTT is upgrading its own library facilities, completing a book catalog, creating a database of back issues of journals, and continuing to expand the collection.

**ProCite 5 - [NCPTTLibrary]**

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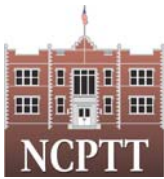
Author	Title	Publisher	callnumber	Blat
Adams, Roxana	Clear Marked Set			
Adler, Alphonse Andrew	Training in the united states (1999-2000 Guide)	American A		0-19
Agnew, Neville	The theory of engineering drawing	D. Van No	T353 .A35	19
Aitken, M.J.	Conservation of Ancient Sites on the Silk Road	The Getty I	ND2849.T86 C66 1997	0-19
Alanen, Arnold R./Melnick, Robert	Science-based Dating in Archaeology	Longman G	CC78.A39 1990	0-19
Allen, Edward/Iano, Joseph	Preserving cultural landscapes in America	Johns Hopl	E159 .P746 2000	0-20
Allen, Kathleen M.S.	Fundamentals of building construction materials and methods	Wiley	TH145 .A417 1985	0-19
American Association of Museums	Interpreting Space: GIS and archaeology	Taylor and	CC83.I58 1990	0-19
Ready-mixed concrete ASTM standards and related information	The Official Museum Directory 26th ed.	R. R. Bowk	AM10.A204 1995	0-19
Masonry test methods and specifications for the building industry	ASTM Inter	TA439 .R345 2002		0-20
Computing the Past: Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in A	ASTM	TA425 .M39 2001		0-20
Landscapes of Memories: A Guide for Conserving Historic Cemeteries: Re	Aarhus Uni	CC80.4.C732 1993		0-19
Guide to Environmental Protection of Collections	Queen's Pr	NB1880.C3A57 1997		0-19
Rural by design maintaining small town character	Sound View	TH605 .M87A65 1991		0-19
Practical Building Conservation: English Heritage Technical Handbook	Planners P	HT167 .A834 1994		0-19
Practical Building Conservation: English Heritage Technical Handbook	Gower Tec	NA109.G7 v.2		0-19
Practical Building Conservation: English Heritage Technical Handbook	Gower Tec	NA109.G7 v.3		0-19
Practical Building Conservation: English Heritage Technical Handbook	Gower Tec	NA109.G7 v.4		0-19
Practical Building Conservation: English Heritage Technical Handbook	Gower Tec	NA109.G7 v.5		0-19
Risk assessment for object conservation	Butterworth	AM141 .A84 1999		0-19
Conservation of building and decorative stone	Butterworth	TH1201 .C56 1989		0-19
Conservation of building and decorative stone	Butterworth	TH1201 .C56 1989		0-19
Conservation of building and decorative stone	Butterworth	TA426 .C64 1998		0-19
Conservation of building and decorative stone	Butterworth	TA426 .C64 1998		0-19
Stone in building its use and potential today	Architectur	TN950 .A83		0-19
Practical Building Conservation: Stone Masonry v.1	Gower Tec	NA109.G7 v.1		0-19

13 Records Marked 553 Records in List 553 Records in Database

Author/Title/Date (Ascending)

Clears the set of marked records

NUM



## CORNEAL IMAGING

### Background

In 2004, Drs. Ko Noshino and Shree Nayar from the Department of Computer Science at Columbia University presented a paper entitled *The World in an Eye* at the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition. This paper outlines the extraction of images from the reflections of the eyes of photographic subjects to reveal what the subject is looking at. NCPTT contacted Dr. Nayar and obtained a copy of the software used to perform image extraction in order to apply this technology to historic photographs.

### Image Selection

The Digital Imaging Laboratory at the Nebraska State Historical Society maintains the Butcher Collection, an archive of plate glass negatives taken between 1862 and 1912, and a very high resolution optical scanner. Dr. Nayar suggested that photographs taken outdoors of subjects with dark eyes would yield the best results. Several promising candidates were chosen from the online archive of this collection and Sean Clifford visited the Imaging Laboratory in Lincoln, Nebraska at the end of September 2006. Assistant Curator Dale Bacon scanned the selected photographs at 3170 dpi (dots per inch) optical resolution and provided additional 800 dpi resolution images he found of interest.

### Results

None of the photographs selected yielded identifiable corneal reflections. However, other photographs containing large reflective surfaces did yield identifiable images. Most notable are a reflection in brass instruments in the Kearney Marine Band studio portrait and reflections in Edison recording devices captured in photographs taken outdoors.

### Conclusions and Further Research

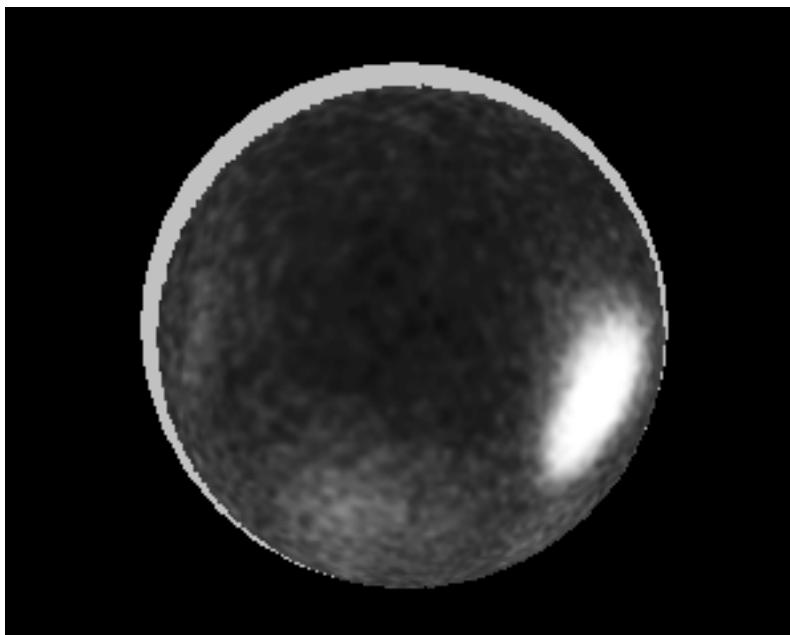
Scanning at 3170 optical dpi does not seem to be of sufficient resolution to extract identifiable reflections from the eyes of photographic subjects in six by eight inch glass plate negatives. However, larger reflective surfaces in images of this type seem the most likely to yield images of interest to researchers.



Figure 1 – Kearney Marine Band circa 1912. Though taken in a studio, this image contained several promising reflections in musical instruments and the brims of caps.



**Figure 2** – The reflections in this band member’s eyes, the third from the left in the first row in front of the child, seemed promising. Note the reflection of a window in the brim of his hat.



**Figure 3** - Extraction of the corneal image from the left eye and subsequent histogram processing did not yield an identifiable image. The right eye (not shown) did not yield useful results.





**Figure 4** – This horn yields a reflection in which the back of a band member and details of the room can be identified. Note the shelving on the wall and what appears to be a cat in the window.



Figure 5 – A young man in a family portrait at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

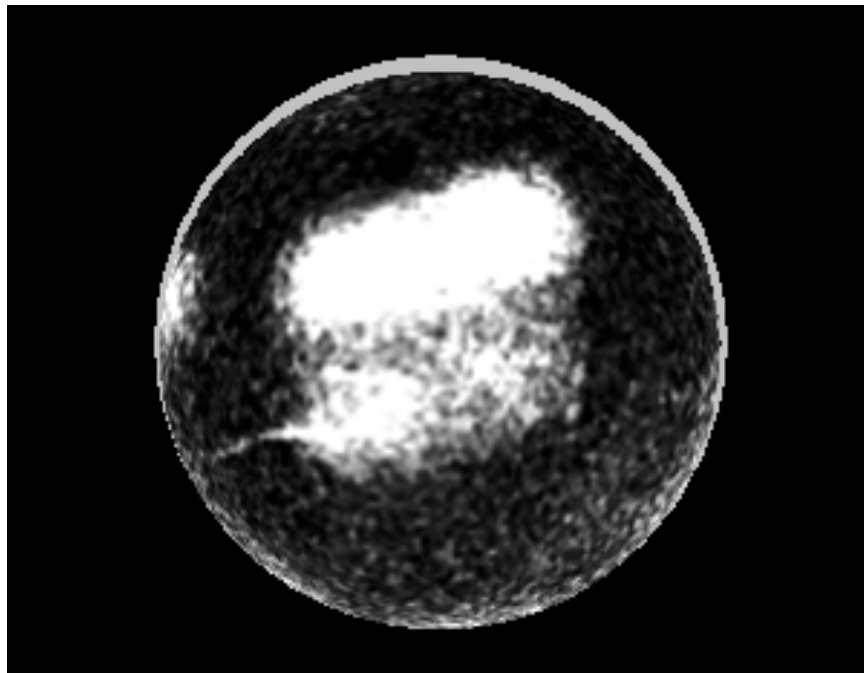


Figure 6 – Results of processing the left eye. No identifiable image was obtained.



Figure 7 – Native American man speaking into an Edison recorder.

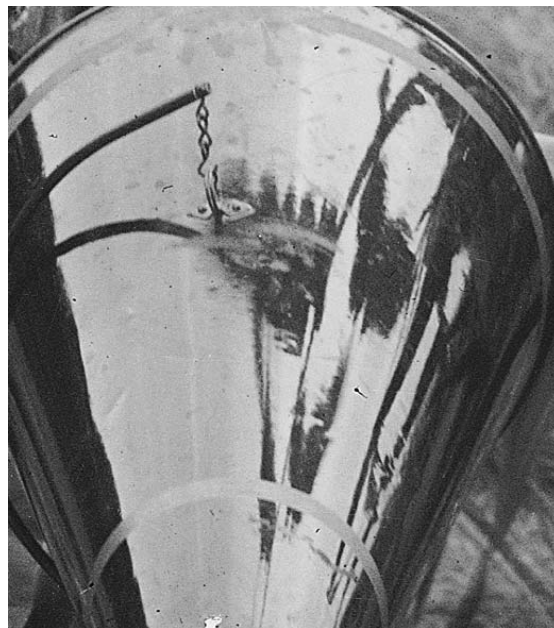


Figure 8 – Several reflections can be seen in this image, scanned at 800 dpi (dots per inch) including trees, buildings, and what appears to be four people. A 3170 dpi resolution scan of this photograph has been requested.





## NCPTT Web Site Overview

### **Web Site Statistics Since April 1, 2006**

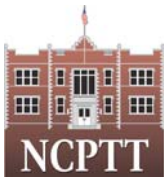
The NCPTT web site has experienced an increase in unique visitors and page over the last six months. Between April 1, 2006 and October 1, 2006, the site received 32,538 unique visitors, an increase of 17%. Over the same period page views were 8,264,680, an increase of 215%.

### **Most Popular Pages (Excluding Home Page)**

1. Product Catalog, 415,139
2. Hurricane Preservation Technical Assistance, 248,308
3. Contact NCPTT & Staff Pages, 128,885
4. Employment, 60,580
5. About NCPTT, 59,768
6. Summer Institute 2006: Architecture & Engineering, 45,974
7. Publications, 44,080
8. News, 43,829
9. News Archive, 43,370
10. Architecture & Engineering Program, 42,636
11. Preservation Technology & Training Grants Call for Proposals, 42,463
12. Heritage Education Program, 41,180
13. Archeology & Collections Program, 40,979
14. Materials Research Program, 40,465
15. Historic Landscapes Program, 40,083

### **Most Popular Print Products Downloaded**

1. Historic Landscape Resource Manual (2000-18) 6,191
2. Testing the Energy Performance of Wood Windows in Cold Climates (1996-08), 4,848
3. A Manual on Conservation Methodology for Historic Buildings and Structures (1997-07), 2,312
4. Draft Code for Historic Buildings (2001-01), 1,896



## Information Technology *Fall 2006 PTT Board Report*

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5. Standard Practice for Determining the Components of Historic Cementitious Materials (2002-20), 1,501

### Most Popular Video Products Downloaded

1. Cemetery Monument Conservation Promotional Video, 1,044
2. Building Dry Stone Retaining Walls (2002-06), 383
3. Preserving America's Landscape (1996-02), 267
4. Culture Shock: Fire Protection for Historic and Cultural Property (1995-01), 258
5. Walls of Stone: How to Build Dry Stone Walls and Rock Fences (1996-01), 243

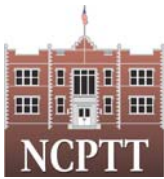
While visitors to the NCPTT web site are increasing, these visitors are not exploring the site as deeply.

### Redesign and Addition of Content

A redesign of the NCPTT web site has been undertaken in order to improve accessibility, navigation, and visibility in various search engines. This redesign is expected to launch in October of 2006. Additionally, we are in the process of converting all NCPTT print products into HTML format, folding the current Heritage Education web site into this new design, and will make all content available via RSS (real-time syndication) feeds.

The purpose of this redesign is threefold: to dramatically increase the amount of content available on the site, to make it easier for researchers to find

information, and to serve as an online reference. Our print products are already available in PDF format. All video products have been converted into popular web formats and will shortly be



## Information Technology

### Fall 2006 PTT Board Report

available for subscription via podcast.

With the launch of the redesigned web site NCPTT will also change to a new web analytics package to provide more detailed information about the impact of the NCPTT web site.

*Figure 1 - New NCPTT home page design. The page has been redesigned for more effective use of space. Tabs at the top divide major sections. The drop-down menus have been removed and the news ticker has been moved to the left as a sticky note.*



*Figure 2 - Current NCPTT home page design.*



# Information Technology

## Fall 2006 PTT Board Report

NCPTT

National Center for Preservation Technology & Training

National Park Service · Cultural Resources

U.S. Department of the Interior

Search

Home

News

Research

Training

Product Catalog

Grants

Lesson Plans

Links

Mini Grants

Newsletter

Home > Research > Heritage Education > Links

Heritage Education Links

Educators may find the following resources useful in teaching heritage education in the classroom. Please note that [these links do not constitute endorsement](#) by NCPTT or the National Park Service.

Link	Description
<a href="#">American Landscape and Architecture Design 1850-1920</a>	A slide collection of almost 3,000 slides showing American buildings and landscapes from 1850-1920.
<a href="#">American Memory: Historical Collections for the National Digital Library</a>	This site provides resources relating to the history and culture of the United States.
<a href="#">Architectural Education Research Center (AERC)</a>	This site will help educators, community youth workers and parents engage children in hands-on, real-world, interdisciplinary Architecture and Design projects.
<a href="#">Center for Understanding the Built Environment (CUBE)</a>	The Center for Understanding the Built Environment (CUBE) has lot of resources for teachers in order to help students to appreciate good design, preservation and planning with a comprehensive program of courses, workshops, newsletters and teaching guides which serve both a local and national audience.
<a href="#">City Lore</a>	This site mainly includes New York City's Cultural Heritage, but it has the category of Cultural Arts Resources for Teachers and Students. It offers workshops, technology seminars, and instructional materials to teachers so that it helps them integrate folklife and community resources across the curriculum.
<a href="#">Daily Lesson Plan</a>	This lesson plan demonstrates how artifacts can be used to obtain information about people and their lifestyles. The provided article, "Seeking Pirate Treasure: Captain Kidd's Sunken Ship" is used as an example for discussion. (Grades 6-8, 9-12)
<a href="#">Decoding the Past: The Work of Archaeologists</a>	A Smithsonian educator's resource for teaching archaeology.
<a href="#">EDSitement</a>	This site has a great amount of information, including more detail information, lesson plan in the category of Art & Culture, Literature & Language Arts, Foreign Language, History & Social Studies.
<a href="#">Education World</a>	Education World provides lots of resources in a wide range of education.
<a href="#">Educator's Guide &amp; Teacher Activities</a>	This site offers educational resources, including Picasso still image phone, teacher workshop, Traveling Trunks, videotapes, teacher-led tour, museum shops.
<a href="#">Exploring Oregon's Past</a>	Environmental education site entitled Exploring Oregon's Past: A Teacher's Activity Guide for Forth through Seven Grades.
<a href="#">Greater Portland Landmarks</a>	It shows common American architectural styles of different times.
<a href="#">Heritage Education Resources by State</a>	This site provides network for educators and those who work with educators to find their organization by becoming part of The Heritage Education Network.
<a href="#">History Matters</a>	This site designed for high school and college teachers of U.S. history courses and offers unique teaching materials for teaching U.S. history.
<a href="#">K-12</a>	A resource for teaching anthropology for K-12 students.
<a href="#">Learning Network: Grades 3-12</a>	This site is designed to help students to keep up with current issues with daily news quiz.

Heritage Education Newsletter

Subscribe to the free quarterly NCPTT Heritage Education Louisiana newsletter.

[\(Subscribe\)](#)

Figure 3 - New NCPTT page layout. Page navigation appears on the left, the selected tab displays the current section, and a breadcrumb trail at the top of the page title shows visitors where they are in the site.



## **NPS Content Management, Design, and Development Considerations**

Recently the National Park Service has mandated that all NPS Parks will be brought into a centralized content management system managed at NPS headquarters. This transition was completed in August of 2006. In FY2007 all NPS Programs are slated to be brought into this system. The purpose is to provide a unified design and content management framework for all Parks and Programs within NPS.

Additional control will be exercised over the approval of new content placed on all NPS web sites at the Assistant Associate Director level. The development of new web applications will also require prior approval.

This level of oversight is neither necessary nor practical and will adversely impact the dissemination of training and research products. Additionally, a one-size-fits-all approach to web design and application development will adversely impact flexibility, visibility, and hinder the use of new technologies.

These concerns have been voiced during the development of these new policies, NCPTT is participating in the Cultural Resources Web Steering Committee, and alternatives to inclusion in the content management system are being explored.





## PTT Grants Program

### Fall 2006 PTT Board Report

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*This report details the Preservation Technology and Training Grants Program activities from October 1, 2005 to October 1, 2006. The report includes information on the 2006 and plans for the 2007 grants program.*

As part of the Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, Title IV (16 U.S.C. 470x-Section 405), “The Secretary, in consultation with the Board, shall provide preservation technology and training grants to eligible applicants with a demonstrated institutional capability and commitment to the purposes of the Center, in order to ensure an effective and efficient system of research, information distribution and skills training in all the related historic preservation fields.”

Highlights of the 2006 PTT Grants program activities include:

- NCPTT continued revisions to online, web-based application system developed by Sean Clifford and a grant development team, including, Andy Ferrell, David Morgan, Jeffery Guin, and Mary Striegel.
- In all, **45** complete applications for funding were received, requesting approximately **\$1.5 million**.
- The proposals underwent a three-tier review. First, NCPTT staff reviewed the proposals to insure completeness and relevance to the PTT Grant program. Second, proposals were assigned to a mini-panel of experts to evaluate and rank similar proposals. Third, high-ranking proposals in each of the research priorities and in the “other technologies” category were selected for panel review.
- NCPTT held a national panel review on April 12, in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The board representative for the panel review was Suzanne Turner. NCPTT staff overseeing the review included Mary Striegel, Andy Ferrell, David Morgan, and Kirk Cordell.
- NCPTT awarded **nine** grants, totaling **\$282,700.00** in funding.
- The awards represented a funding rate of approximately 20 percent of the total proposals submitted. This indicated a one-in-five chance of receiving funding.



***2006 PTT Grants Awarded***

**1. Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, Philadelphia, Penn.**

**\$40,000.00**

***Architectural Records Conference***

The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts will develop and present a national conference, “Architectural Records: Preserving and Managing the Documentation of Our Built Environment,” in spring 2007 in Chicago for approximately 160 attendees. The goal of the Chicago Architectural Records Conference will be to improve practices for preserving and providing access to architectural records in museums, archives, libraries, and historic sites throughout the country. The conference will address the training needs of staff in small and large institutions on both the theoretical and practical levels, through keynote addresses, lectures, case studies, and tours.

**2. Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. - \$39,400.00**

***Development of a Rapid Indicator of Biodeterioration of Historic Stone***

Biodeterioration plays an important role in the degradation of stone in historic buildings, monuments, and archeological sites. Microbial biodeterioration occurs through the action of organic and inorganic acids produced by biofilms. Detection of biodeterioration of culturally important stone objects is difficult. The use of microbiological indicators of environmental conditions is common (e.g., *E. coli* is a key indicator of fecal contamination of water). The objective of this project is to evaluate the use of a microbial indicator for early detection of stone biodeterioration. Microbial indicators could provide a simple and rapid means for early detection of stone biodeterioration.

**3. Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas- \$40,000.00**

***Digital Technology Integration: San Antonio Riverwalk Documentation Pilot Project***

This work will develop a prototype system for the integration of digital technologies to create more efficient and accurate methods for the documentation of historically significant landscapes that include historic structures. The information gathered will be used for archival drawings and be uniquely tied to a Geographical Information System (GIS) with structural and landscape element data. This unique marriage of technologies provides an excellent educational and interpretive tool. The methodology developed will be translated into written format and provided to NCPTT. The resulting documentary material will be provided to the Library of Congress for copyright-free distribution to the public.



**4. Kacyra Family Foundation, Orinda, Calif. - \$40,000.00**

*High Definition Documentation of Archaeology*

Existing conditions documentation of archeological structures can be cut by 60 percent and can improve the accuracy and fidelity of the documentation by using scanning technology. This would optimize valuable human and financial resources for archeologists and preservation specialists working to save our 'Vanishing Treasures'. This proposal will refine the development of a high definition documentation system for archeology; utilize commercial off-the-shelf digital technologies; and disseminate this method through training sessions and workshops to park personnel. This method assimilates into the archeologists' work process, saving significant time at each site and increasing the number of sites they record.

**5. University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. - \$36,990.00**

*Interpreting Infrared Thermography and other Non-Invasive Technologies within the Context of Historic Materials*

Technical improvements in non-invasive evaluation methods of infrared thermography has resulted in more effective and affordable hardware as well as more versatile software. These technological advances are making infrared thermography more accessible to preservationists and conservationists when conducting historic building investigations, evaluations and documentations. The main barrier to using this potentially very useful method is the absence of a methodology for meaningful interpretation of the raw data obtained with infrared thermography. This overwhelming barrier can be overcome only by correlating the detailed physical characteristics of model architectural structures in various environments with the data obtained from them by means of infrared thermography. The work done in this project will establish this correlation and offer it in the form of a library of calibrated data for the immediate and meaningful application of infrared thermography to problems of architectural restoration, conservation and preservation.

**6. The Association for Preservation Technology, Savannah, Ga. - \$29,400.00**

*Investigation of Mechanical Anchor Strength in Stone Masonry*

Mechanical anchor systems are commonly used in historic masonry materials despite the lack of design values for this type of base material. The current lack of codes, guidelines or recommendations for pullout and shear values of these anchors in historic masonry materials leaves the design community to improvise the design and specification of these bolts. This work will test each of the three commonly-used types of mechanical fasteners in both limestone and sandstone for pullout, shear and a combination of pullout and





shear. The ultimate yield strength will be correlated to both compressive strength and surface hardness of the sample stone.



**7. Bryan Lang Foundation, Woodbine, Ga. - \$12,200.00**

*Planning to Preserve Our Coastal Heritage and Culture: Disaster Planning and Recovery for Heritage and Cultural Sites in Coastal Georgia, Coastal South Carolina, and Northeast Florida*

This grant funding will provide for developing and conducting a disaster planning and recovery workshop for small to medium sized heritage/cultural institutions in Coastal Georgia, South Carolina, and Northeast Florida who might otherwise not be able to travel to larger cities to gain this knowledge. This workshop will address fundamental disaster planning and recovery techniques, address technologies such as digitization, cold storage, and storage equipment used to mitigate damage and aid in recovery, and discuss lessons learned from past natural disasters.

**8. National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC- \$13,300.00**

*Use of Rheoreversible Gels for the Preservation of Cultural and Artistic Heritage*

Solvents are used for removal of paint and oily dirt that disfigure cultural and artistic heritage. To mitigate a serious drawback, rapid infiltration via capillary action, they may be “encapsulated” into gels; these, however, can be difficult to remove, requiring substantial washing and/or physical action. This work will provide improved methods for cleaning by designing and testing gels that become freely flowing on demand. Protocols for making and using ‘rheoreversible’ gels using polyamine -CO<sub>2</sub> and small molecule gelator systems with several solvents and aqueous systems have been devised. This work investigates their properties, removability, and efficacy.

**9. The Timber Framers Guild, Washington, Mass. - \$31,500.00**

*Vernacular Wooden Church Steeples in the Eastern United States: Form and Restoration*

Wooden church steeples range from modest 80 ft. towers to spires reaching to 200 ft. Four monographs will identify characteristic forms and their structural systems, delineated in drawings showing overall configuration, transverse and longitudinal views, exploded joinery, and iron work if original. The interaction of the steeple framing and the structure of the main body of the church will also be made clear. A structural analysis will illustrate loads, stresses and displacements of each. This study will promote better understanding of the form and dynamics of the thousands of American wooden steeples from the 18th and 19th centuries still standing today.



### *2007 PTT Grants Call for Proposals*

NCPTT continues with its established research priorities and announces a new research priority with the 2007 call for proposals:

*NCPTT will give preference to research and training proposals that develop innovative techniques in dating, monitoring, analysis, and remote sensing of archeological sites and artifacts.*

NCPTT also continues a special initiative first offered in the 2006, and continued in the 2007 PTT Grants Call for Proposals:

*Special Research Initiative in Mitigation of Storm Damage*

*The aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita has brought to light a need for further research into mitigation of storm damage to cultural resources. Thus, Special Initiative gives priority to research that develops or advances technologies to preserve storm damaged cultural resources.*

The 2007 call for proposals was posted to NCPTT's website on Sept. 18. The online web-based application form was also available on that date. The deadline for proposal applications is Dec. 1, 2006. NCPTT plans to follow the same three-tier review process as last year. First, proposals will be reviewed by in-house staff to determine completeness and appropriateness of applications. Second, proposals will be reviewed for technical merit by a series of mini-panels composed of three to five technical experts within archeology, historic architecture, historic landscapes, or materials conservation. Based on the mini-panel review, about 25 proposals will be recommended for review by a national panel convened in Natchitoches the week of March 1, 2007.

**NCPTT asks the PTT board to appoint a representative willing to observe the national panel review in Natchitoches the week of March 1, 2007.**



2007 PTT Grants Program Schedule

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Proposed Schedule

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28-Aug-06	Call announced in publications, advertised widely
18-Sep-06	Complete draft of Call for Proposals
18-Sep-06	CFP on Web
18-Sep-06	On-line application process live on web
30-Sep-06	Postcard announcements sent
1-Dec-06	Deadline for grants applications
2-Jan-07	Deadline to have grants to mini-panels
2-Feb-07	Deadline to have mini-panel reviews completed
15-Feb-07	25 Finalist proposals to Final Panelists
15-Feb-07	First round of declination letters
1-Mar-07	Panel Review (during this week)
8-Mar-07	Complete Apportionment certificate and rough drafts of grant agreements
8-Mar-07	Second round of declination letters
1-May-07	Grants Begin

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## Architecture and Engineering *Fall 2006 PTT Board Report*

*NCPTT's Architecture & Engineering program encourages research and partnerships with organizations and institutions working to advance preservation technology for buildings and other structures. The program has taken part in numerous projects with significant potential impact on the architecture and engineering fields:*

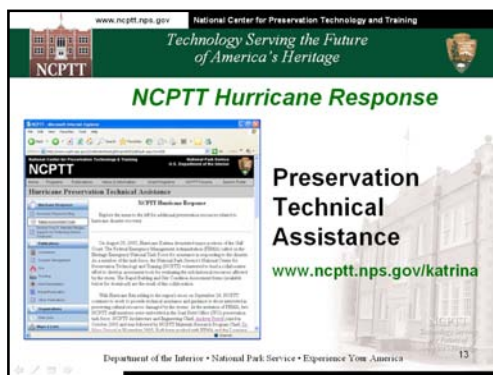
### Professional Development Program for Engineers in Historic Preservation

NCPTT continues working to improve preservation training opportunities for engineers. As part of the **2006 Summer Institute**, Architecture and Engineering offered *Historic Materials and Building Pathology* (June 6-10) and *Diagnostics Methodology & Treatment Strategies* (June 12-16).



The Architectural Engineering Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Institute of Architects Historic Resources Committee (AIA/HRC) provided continuing education units. Additional partners once again included the Association for Preservation Technology International, Northwestern State University, Cane River Creole National Historical Park, Cane River National Heritage Area and the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches.

In addition to preservation engineering training, the **2006 Summer Institute** featured training in archeological prospection by David Morgan and cemetery monument conservation by Mary Striegel.



### APTI Annual Conference

Andy Ferrell participated in a one day NCPTT-sponsored colloquium on Disaster Response and Preparedness at the Association for Preservation Technology International conference in Atlanta, Ga. Ferrell presented information about NCPTT's response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Kirk Cordell also presented at the symposium on the

hurricanes' impacts on the Gulf Coast states.



## Architecture and Engineering *Fall 2006 PTT Board Report*

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### Sustainable Historic Preservation

Architecture and Engineering continues researching sustainable practices for historic preservation towards collecting a body of knowledge on this emerging topic. The initial phase of the sustainability initiative has involved attending conferences and facilitating informal conversations with professionals on green topics and sustainable practices as related to historic preservation. Ferrell chaired a session on sustainable preservation at the **2006 Rethinking Sustainable Construction: Next Generation Green Buildings International Conference** in Sarasota, Fla.



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### A&E Assistant

Sarah Jackson joined the program in a permanent position as an architectural conservator on Oct. 1, 2006. Jackson came to NCPTT in June 2005 as a graduate intern to continue the testing for the study on the durability of traditional and modified limewash recipes. In Nov. 2005 she was hired as conservation research assistant for the Materials Research Program. Along with completing the testing for the limewash study she assisted in planning for the Advanced Cemetery Workshop held in July 2006. Before coming to NCPTT she worked as a graduate intern for the City of Savannah, Department of Cemeteries while pursuing her M.A. in Historic Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design. Her interest lies in preservation of historic structures and ways to utilize them in today's society.

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### MAHR Interns

A&E is overseeing the work of interns J.C. Rivers and Rebecca Zarling, graduate students in the Master of Arts in Heritage Resources (MAHR) program at NSU. Rivers and Zarling are using global positioning technology to prepare an architectural survey to collect data related to the development of the City of Natchitoches for the Cane River GIS, a Geographic Information system developed by the Cane River National Heritage Area (CRNHA). A partnership between NSU and the NCPTT created assistantships for Rivers and Zarling to perform the survey work.



## Architecture and Engineering *Fall 2006 PTT Board Report*

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### **Summer Interns**

A&E hosted three interns this summer: J.C. Rivers, a joint intern with CRNHA; Alec Bennett, a Presidential Management Fellow and historian for the National Cemetery Administration; and Nic Clark, a history undergrad from Centenary College. Bennett and Clark participated in and supported the summer engineering training and researched sustainable preservation and preservation field schools, respectively. Rivers began the architectural survey of Natchitoches detailed previously.

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### **LSMSA Student Worker**

Andrew Moore, a high school student at the Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts (LSMSA), is gathering web resources about sustainable design and smart growth issues related to historic preservation. These resources, including websites, PDF documents and PowerPoint presentations will be gathered online as part of the A&E website. Moore has worked with Ferrell to investigate emerging green products, techniques and services, including innovative insulation products and applications. LSMSA students are required to undertake community service hours every semester and NCPTT has benefited greatly by hosting a number of these students.

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### **Preserve America Summit**

Ferrell is a member of the panel formed to discuss Dealing with the Unexpected at the Preserve America Summit in New Orleans, Oct. 19-20. He met with fellow panelists in D.C. in August of this year for a preliminary discussion and to make recommendations that will be discussed further at the summit in New Orleans. Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States and Honorary Chair of the *Preserve America* initiative, in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, will lead a national *Preserve America* Summit to mark the 40th anniversary of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Summit participants will review the major components of the national historic preservation program and present their considerations designed to advance historic preservation programs and policy. In addition, Summit participants will generate unique and innovative ideas for assisting communities throughout the United States in developing the tools and processes necessary for advancing historic preservation on a local scale.



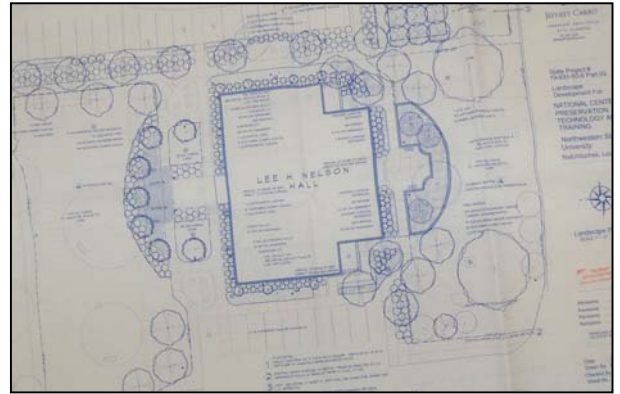


## Architecture and Engineering *Fall 2006 PTT Board Report*

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### **Lee H. Nelson Hall Landscape Plan**

NCPTT continues working with Steve Noel of Jeffrey Carbo Landscape Architects & Site Planners in Alexandria, La, to implement a design for the grounds of Nelson Hall. The proposed landscape plan combines an understanding of the site's historical development and aims to satisfy contemporary needs. Kirk Cordell, Kevin Ammons and Andy Ferrell have worked closely with Steve Noel. The design will be installed in 2006 after consultation with the Louisiana SHPO.



### **Nelson Hall Improvements**

In an effort to meet its strategic goal of developing a world-class training facility, NCPTT has undertaken several improvements to its headquarters at Lee Nelson Hall. The NCPTT kitchen was reconfigured to facilitate catering and better address staff needs and a new ADA-compliant ramp was completed on the northeast corner of the building. The ramp increases accessibility, improves access to the elevator, and permits closure of the offices during off-hours events. Kevin Ammons and Andy

Ferrell coordinated efforts to implement these projects, including consultation with the Louisiana SHPO on compliance issues.

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### **Cooperative Agreements**

Through a Fiscal Year 2006 cooperative agreement with the New Jersey Institute of Technology, A&E will support the development of a two week training program for the implementation of a four year preservation high school curriculum. The training focuses on teaching teachers and education administrators how to implement the preservation high school curriculum. The training program will be presented in individual cities across the nation.





## Architecture and Engineering *Fall 2006 PTT Board Report*

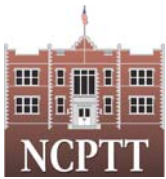
In another Fiscal Year 2006 cooperative agreement, Tulane School of Architecture and NCPTT will produce, edit and publish a substantial body of information pertaining to the frontline preservation work of Tarps New Orleans to tarp historic structures in New Orleans immediately after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

A&E is currently working on additional cooperative agreements for Fiscal Year 2007 with US/ICOMOS for student exchanges and research, the Association for Preservation Technology International for increased cooperation on preservation technology research and training projects, and Louisiana State University School of Architecture for the use of emerging technologies for the efficient documentation of historic buildings and landscapes.

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### **Preservation and Affordable Housing Program**

A&E is continuing to explore the development of a program that would involve the rehabilitation of small vernacular structures as affordable and sustainable housing. The focus of the program would be to provide real world preservation experience using existing and emerging technologies to research, document and rehabilitate these resources. A number of professors from a variety of schools have expressed interest and it would be useful to have a summit to further develop this idea.



*NCPTT's Archeology & Collections program seeks to enhance the preservation of archeological sites, landscapes, materials, and collections through research, grants, and partnerships.*

The April to September 2006 period was an active one for the program along several fronts. In terms of training, the first archeological component of the Summer Institute program debuted successfully in June. More details follow below. Through the A&C program NCPTT also provided the NPS Midwest Archeology Center \$10,000 in support of an annual training course in non-destructive archeological prospection techniques.

Several research initiatives continued to develop. For instance, partners have been secured for the effort to develop a new chronological technique based on the formation of an earthwork's sediments. Washington University conducted fieldwork at the Poverty Point World Heritage Site over the summer, NCPTT began building an analytical GIS database and collected GPS data, and samples currently are being prepared for sediment analysis at the University of Minnesota. As another example, A&C staff members are working with the Materials Research Program to assess the national need for a chemical technique to strengthen bone artifacts subject to frequent handling.

Public outreach efforts and grants administration efforts remain strong. Particularly visible were the second annual meeting of the Archaeological Preservation Technology Research Consortium, co-hosted by NCPTT; participation in the Society for American Archaeology and the U.S. ICOMOS meetings; consultation work for a local preservation society and the Cane River National Heritage Area; and acceptance of a manuscript for publication by *American Anthropologist*.

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### Summer Institute Report: "Prospection in Depth"



From June 6-23 NCPTT partnered with the NPS Midwest Archeology Center, the NPS Cultural Resources GIS laboratory, the University of Mississippi, and Northwestern State University of Louisiana to hold its first training program on non-destructive archeological prospection techniques. This intensive workshop is unique in that it provided hands-on training in the integration of GIS, GPS, and remote sensing technology using data from an ongoing, grant-funded research project. By collaborating with academic researchers, moreover,



the training event offered an unparalleled opportunity to combine data collection with field testing. Four instructors and 10 participants from all over the country used the St. Anne and Whittington plantation sites as learning laboratories.

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### **Integrating the Web into Training**

“Prospection in Depth” forms the basis for NCPTT’s first online, interactive training module, which is found at <http://www.ncptt.nps.gov/archeology/>. The website chronicles the interwoven prospection and testing results of the Summer Institute participants and instructors, plus the excavation efforts of the research teams funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the U.K. Arts and Humanities Research Council. The webpages were designed by NCPTT’s Sean Clifford, and content and interpretation were provided by Archeology & Collection program staff.



The 2006 fieldwork marks the third and most intensive season of excavations undertaken as part of the academic research project. Consequently, Summer Institute ground-truthing occurs within a well-documented historical, archival, and archaeological set of contexts, making the training experience all the more robust. The Summer Institute participants and instructors together tested some 11 square meters covering key geophysical anomalies. Then the international team of 11 researchers went on to excavate an additional 89 square meters as units and some 6 square meters as 75 shovel tests.

The preliminary results are presented in these electronic pages so that Summer Institute participants and others can learn from this unique fusion of technological training and traditional research. The archeological public is encouraged to join the teams in this endeavor by ground-truthing the remote sensing data themselves. Visitors to the website are invited to:

- select a site to explore
- examine the remote sensing data
- compare anomalies with excavation unit and/or shovel test locations
- virtually excavate the unit or shovel test in question by studying the context (excavation) forms, plan view drawings, profile drawings, and photographs

NCPTT plans to advertise the presence of the website throughout the NPS and to the general public through its *NCPTT Notes* publication and through its electronic mailing list.



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### **New Research Priority in the PTTGrants**

NCPTT is pleased to announce that the 2006 call for grant proposals has gone out with a new research priority:

*NCPTT will give preference to research and training proposals that develop innovative techniques in dating, monitoring, analysis, and remote sensing of archeological sites and artifacts.*



## Materials Research Program

### *Spring 2006 PTT Board Report*

*NCPTT's Materials Research Program focuses on understanding how cultural objects deteriorate with time and developing new methods to preserve these objects. NCPTT partners with parks, laboratories, universities and government agencies to accomplish these tasks.*

## MATERIALS RESEARCH

### **NCPTT awarded the Forbes Award by Association for Gravestone Studies**

The Monument Builders of North America nominated NCPTT's Cemetery Initiative for the Association of Gravestone Studies's Harriette Merrifield Forbes Award. NCPTT received the 2006 award at the AGS annual meeting in Doylestown PA. The AGS only awards one Forbes Award per year to recognize "outstanding contributions in such areas as scholarship, publications, conservation, education, and community service." Additionally, Jason Church presented on the topic of the history and care of cast iron grave markers to a large and appreciative audience.

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### **NCPTT and NSU embark on a New Joint Laser Research Facility**

A new venture was established with NSU to house the Laser Research Facility available for use by NSU and NCPTT researchers. At the heart of this new facility is a Nd-YAG (Neodymium-Yttrium Aluminum Garnet) laser formerly used by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art for research into laser cleaning of historic materials. With new physics faculty and NCPTT's existing interests, this new facility will open a number of research possibilities for both NCPTT and NSU. MRP's student intern, Stace Miller, is working closely with Dr. Andy Ludu, NSU physics assistant professor, to set up the newly-arrived laser.

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### **2006 Materials Research Summer Intern Program Completed.**

MRP interns this summer worked on a variety of ambitious projects:

- evaluating headstone cleaners for the Department of Veterans Affairs (Georgette Lang, Centenary College)
- characterizing scale present on granite tombstones in the southwest (Caitlin O'Grady, University of Arizona)
- aiding with all aspects of the Advanced Cemetery Workshop (Alec Bennett, National Cemetery Administration)
- acquiring oral histories of northwestern Louisiana Creole and African-American burial traditions (Ervin James, Texas A&M University)



## Materials Research Program

### *Spring 2006 PTT Board Report*

- evaluating biocidal capabilities of an experimental germanium-based dopant for commercial stone consolidants.  
(Cole Stevens, Syracuse University)
- establishing the joint laser facility.  
(Stace Miller, Northwestern State University)

We are pleased with the quality and quantity of work these interns have accomplished and feel certain that they will go on to their future endeavors with a larger understanding of their fields and also as ambassadors for some of what NCPTT has to offer. Each of the interns presented their work to the public at NCPTT's Sixth Annual Preservation in Your Community event on Aug. 3.

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#### **New Project: Analysis of Surface Scale on Granite Headstones**

As part of her summer internship, graduate intern Caitlin O'Grady studied scale that has been found on granite headstones in a variety of cemeteries. Water samples from the areas were analyzed by ion chromatography and chemical testing. Scale samples were analyzed by chemical spot testing, scanning electron microscopy, optical microscopy, portable x-ray fluorescence spectroscopy and other techniques. The project continues this year

with undergraduate intern, Ifrah Jamil.

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#### **Phase two of the Cemetery Cleaning Study Launched**

NCPTT is moving forward with the second phase of a two-year study to evaluate the effectiveness of commercial chemical cleaners for the removal of biological growth and dirt from federally-issued headstones located in national cemeteries across the nation. The work is performed in partnership with the National Cemetery Administration, an office of the Department of Veteran Affairs. During phase one of the project, headstones were tested for biological growth and cleaned with five test chemicals at five climatically and geographically distinct national cemeteries. Phase two begins the evaluation of effectiveness by identifying biological re-growth on stones. Completion of this study is expected in the summer of 2007. In relation to this project, summer undergraduate intern, Georgette Lang, prepared a artificial weathering experiment to compare the effects of various cleaners on marble. Results of this project are currently being analyzed.

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## Materials Research Program

### *Spring 2006 PTT Board Report*

#### **Durability of traditional and modified limewash for use at Cane River Creole National Historical Park Completed**

This project is a partnership between NCPTT, the Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI), and Quality Finish, Inc. In the first phase of this study a variety of modified limewashes were tested on weathered wood, rough sawn wood, and brick. In the second phase, limewashes were applied to additional handmade brick, weathered wood, and epoxy samples. Three commercially available lime sources were also tested. Performance was evaluated based on adhesion and abrasion tests as well as color change before and after artificial weathering. Limewashes of lime and water without additives performed best on brick samples. All limewashes performed poorly on weathered wood samples. Mary Striegel and Sarah Jackson presented this research at The Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference in Chicago, and at the AIC Annual Meeting in Providence. Final results were presented at the Association for Preservation Technology Annual Conference in Atlanta, by Sarah Jackson, and will be submitted for publication in the APT Bulletin.

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#### **Evaluation of vitrification as a treatment for historic terrazzo floors completed**

The purpose of this study is to aid GSA in establishing a policy for terrazzo care by providing scientific evidence to evaluate the vitrification process. Tests were conducted that would directly address the GSA's specific concerns about vitrification's effects on terrazzo flooring: the chemical changes on the surface, the ability of moisture to move through terrazzo, and the suitability of the appearance.

NCPTT prepared sealed, waxed, and vitrified traditional terrazzo samples and exposed them to a wide variety of chemical and physical tests. We investigated surface changes, strength changes, liquid water and water vapor transport, and appearance changes of the different surface treatments. Most recently, we evaluated the potential of surface staining with a variety of stain sources including wine and blood. We found that staining is a major issue for vitrified terrazzo floors, while waxed floors offered the best protection against most types of staining.

Final results of this work were presented at the Association for Preservation Technology Annual Conference in Atlanta by Tye Botting, and will be submitted for publication in the APT Bulletin.

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#### **The study of Alkoxygermane mixtures as biocides is completed**

NCPTT undergraduate intern Cole Stevens completed his studies on the alkoxygermanes added to commercially available stone consolidants this summer. He worked closely with the NSU biology department to test the



## Materials Research Program

### *Spring 2006 PTT Board Report*

biocidal properties of adding small amounts of ethyltriethoxygermane to the commercially available stone consolidant, Prosoco OH100. He identified microorganisms commonly found on stone grave markers from literature reviews and chose two microorganisms, *Thiobacillus sp.* and *Arthrobacter globiformis*, for testing. He acquired biological cultures of these organisms and tested the potential of mixtures to kill and prevent biological growth. The initial evaluation of the data shows that dilutions down to 100 µg/ml of ethyltriethoxygermane in Prosoco OH100 were capable of killing the microorganisms. Dr. Gillian Rudd and student Ryan Metzger from the NSU chemistry department are preparing the final report on this project.

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#### **Air pollution deposition studies on consolidated stone back on track.**

The consolidant project has been plagued with numerous delays, but now all chamber upgrades and repairs have been completed and the chamber has just finished its first test run. During its downtime, extensive repairs and replacements were put in place for almost all of its key parts. The computer control system was upgraded as well. For this test run, eight Salem limestone samples were run for 10 days to evaluate the chamber's performance and ensure comparable operation to previous work. Tye Botting, NCPTT's joint faculty appointment in the NSU Chemistry department continues this study.

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## HURRICANE RECOVERY EFFORTS

#### **Library of Congress Presentation.**

On March 2nd Mary Striegel served as an invited speaker for the Library of Congress, Topics in Preservation Science Series. This hour-long presentation, entitled "The Conservation Scientist versus Hurricane Katrina," highlighted Striegel's experiences in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, during which her preconceived notions of what the state of Louisiana needed were replaced with more realistic approaches to collection salvage and stabilization. The presentation provided an overview of FEMA processes, details of conditions found, and efforts to save collections. The presentation was standing room only with more than 75 professionals on-hand.

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#### **Heritage Emergency National Task Force holds Face-to-Face Meeting**

NCPTT was one of many organizations represented at a Heritage Emergency National Task Force Meeting held March 3 at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Federal agencies and professional groups from around the country met as part of ongoing efforts to understand the effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on cultural resources, to improve





## Materials Research Program

### *Spring 2006 PTT Board Report*

recovery efforts, and to plan for future catastrophic events. The meeting included overview presentations from state and local representatives, a FEMA briefing, and the development of subcommittees targeting six major areas: (1) preparedness, (2) communications, (3) resources, (4) On-site assistance, (5) financial assistance, and (6) documentation. Each of the organizations represented were asked to contribute to one of the areas if possible.

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#### **NCPTT-AIC Wet Recovery Workshops**

NCPTT worked in conjunction with the American Institute for Conservation to produce the workshop series, “After the Storm: Recovery of Wet Collections,” which was held in March. Instructors included Hilary Kaplan, Beverly Perkins, and Mary Striegel. Workshops were held throughout Louisiana:

- March 16, National D-day Museum, New Orleans
- March 17, LSU Rural Life Museum, Baton Rouge,
- March 20, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, Natchitoches

The goal of these one-day workshops was to provide information and public assistance to public and private non-profit organizations such as libraries, universities and colleges, court houses, hospitals and others. The focus of the workshops was the recovery of wet collections damaged by natural disasters and preparation for possible future disasters.

In addition to the wet recovery workshops, the instructors provided conservation advice to New Orleans organizations and individuals on March 18. The team consulted with (1) the New Orleans Clerk of Court Evidence Rooms, (2) the Backstreet Cultural Museum, (3) Dillard University Library and (4) Dr. Michael White, jazz musician. A final report on this activity is available.

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#### **Mary Striegel presents at AIC workshop on disaster assessment and management**

Based on her experiences with a FEMA detail after Hurricane Katrina, Mary Striegel was asked to be an instructor in the AIC workshop, held June 15. She spoke on the topics of architecture assessments and presented the Rapid Building and Site Condition Assessment Forms developed in conjunction with the National Heritage Emergency Task Force. In addition, she spoke about how assessment data was being used after Hurricane Katrina.



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Piggybacking on to the AIC annual meeting, Mary Striegel and Paul Messier were part of a half-day symposium on cultural resources and disasters held June 14 as part of the AIC angels project hosted at the Newport Historical Society. The symposium covered a range of topics from the effects of fires, floods, and hurricanes on cultural collecting institutions to first steps in recovery.

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#### **Consultation about Hurricane Damaged Cemeteries**

In August, NCPTT provided a day-long consultation with Sipapu Cemetery Services. Sipapu served with DMORT, the Disaster Mortuary Team, and with the Louisiana Family Assistance program for the state. They sought advice and technical assistance regarding damage to 82 cemeteries along the Louisiana gulf coast region. Damage included the erosion of over 1550 graves in



cemeteries within the hurricane affected areas. To date, only three cemeteries qualify for FEMA public assistance. NCPTT is looking into various options for technical assistance including the development of a specialized disaster recovery workshop for these cemeteries.

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## TRAINING

### **National cemetery preservation initiative**

Through this initiative, NCPTT has developed a full suite of training for a wide range of audiences. The Cemetery Monument Conservation Basics Workshop is a public-friendly program designed to introduce basic tools to conserve headstones. The fourth Cemetery Monument Conservation Workshop is the professionally-oriented staple of this initiative that teaches a full range of preservation subjects. The new Advanced Cemetery Monument Conservation Workshops completes the trio and guides participants who have previously participated in one of our workshop through the preservation of complex grave marker issues. NCPTT strives to develop new audiences for cemetery preservation through partnerships with allied professional organizations such as the Monument Builders of North America.

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**NCPTT teams with NPS Historic Preservation Training Center for a Successful Advanced Cemetery Workshop**  
NCPTT's new Advanced Cemetery Monument Conservation workshop was held as part of the NCPTT Summer Institute from July 10-14, 2006 in Natchitoches, Louisiana. NPS Historic Preservation Training Center (HPTC) in Fredericksburg, Md., provided two instructors, Rene Laya and Dominic

DeRubis, who specialized in masonry, historic stuccos and lime mortars. Cathedral Stone, Inc provided day-long training on the use of Jahn patching and repair materials. The successful workshop provided extensive field learning to six participants on the topics of stone monument cleaning, adhesive repair, color matched fills, historic lime stucco, lime mortar brick masonry and lime wash.

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### **2006 Cemetery Monument Conservation Workshop held in Virginia City**

NCPTT partnered with the Comstock Cemetery Foundation, Pacific West Regional office of the National Park Service, and the SHPO of Nevada to present the Southwest Regional Cemetery Monument Conservation Workshop on September 26-28 in Virginia City, Nev.. This three-day workshop focused on hands-on conservation treatments crucial





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to the preservation of historic grave markers. This workshop had a special focus on wood conservation. Additional topics included condition assessment, adhesion and reinforced repair, cleaning, protection, stone repairs, bases and resetting, and safe handling techniques. Instructors for the workshop included Terry Amburgey, Jason Church, Fran Gale, Dennis Montagna, Karl Munson, Shelley Sass, Irving Slavid, Mary Striegel, and Norman Weiss. Eighteen participants registered for the event.

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## **MEETINGS, PRESENTATIONS**

### **Northwestern State University Research Day highlights NCPTT research**

Undergraduate intern Cole Stevens presented the results of his NCPTT work on developing new alternative stone strengtheners with potential biocidal properties. The work draws on three years of basic research into the synthesis, polymerization, and application of germanium-based compounds. Cole was one of five students nominated for the Mildred Hart Bailey undergraduate research award. His work is supervised by Mary F. Striegel and Tye Botting.

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### **Jason Church attended Metals Conservation Workshop**

Jason Church, was selected to attend the 2006 Metals Conservation Summer Institute sponsored by the Higgins Armory Museum and the Metal Processing Institute at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The institute, held May 27 - June 7, in Worcester, Mass. provided participants with hands-on, lab-based opportunities to investigate the fields of metallurgy and conservation from a new perspective, using the combined facilities, faculties and collections of nationally recognized museums and universities.

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### **Tye Botting represents NCPTT at the “Recent Research and Technical Innovations in Brownstone Conservation Symposium”**

Tye Botting monitored the 2005 PTT Grant funded symposium on the conservation of Brownstone held May 13, in Portland, Maine and organized by the Victoria Mansion. This symposium brought together six speakers on the topic. More than 80 participants learned more about the physical properties, fabrication, consolidation, and treatments related to brownstone.

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### **NCPTT at the African-American Preservation Alliance Conference**

Jason Church and summer intern Ervin James, along with Rolonda Teal of the Cane River Heritage Area (CARI) presented at the African-American Preservation Alliance (AAPA) Conference, held Aug. 3-5 in Memphis. The presentation entitled “The Importance of the Cemetery in Northwest Louisiana’s African-American Community” focused on research



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done by NCPTT and CARL. This research included oral histories of traditional funerary and burial practices as well as cemetery documentation.

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#### **Heritage Education and Materials Research team up for Science and Art lectures**



Mary Striegel, Jason Church, and Chris Thornburg were invited by the fifth grade classes of the new Natchitoches Magnet school to present a chemistry-based activity on Science and Art. Striegel lectured on ways that science and chemistry can be used to preserve art for future generations. The lecture was followed by hands on activities. The students were taught the principles of thin layer chromatography and its

usefulness in identifying art media binders. In the experiment the fifth graders separated an ink sample into its component chemicals.

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## Heritage Education Program

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*NCPTT's Heritage Education program conveys to our youngest citizens the power of place and the stories behind our irreplaceable treasures. It administers competitive mini-grants and provides resources to teachers to enhance the educational experience by teaching students the value of their local heritage. Heritage Education seeks to serve as a national model to educators in this field.*

#### 2006 Mini-Grant Awards

After a well-publicized campaign to solicit applications from the teachers of Louisiana, NCPTT convened a grants panel of educators and Center staff to review the submission for CY2006. A total of forty (40) projects were selected for funding, and the successful applicants were invited to Natchitoches for an orientation session, review of requirements, and awards ceremony held at the Center on July 8, 2006. Nancy Hawkins of the Louisiana Division of Archeology once again conducted the grants training and will administer the funds on behalf of the Center. Each grantee will receive a total grant of \$2500, which may be spent on a wide variety of eligible expenses for the classroom or field trips; a lesson plan and final report are also due from each recipient at the end of the grant cycle. The following projects were funded out of FY2006 monies:

Teacher	School	Project
Debbie Buce	Galvez Primary and Galvez Middle Schools	Whispers From the Past -- Something to Shout About!
Lee Ann Winkle	Lakeside Jr./Sr. High School	Mysteries of the Bayou State
Ghedy Matus	Baton Rouge International School	A French and Spanish Welcome to St. Francisville
Kathie Istre	Dolby Elementary	"A Look through My Eyes"
Tara Portier	Bourg Elementary	Shaping Our Past
Sheila Warner	NSU Elementary Lab School	Creative Arts: A Visual Journey Through The Eyes of a Kindergartner
Melanie Hanley	Glasgow Middle School	Capital Gains and Losses - Continued
Ron Kuerner, Jr	Madisonville Junior High School	Linking Louisiana's Past: Dead Center and Above Ground
Dava Powell	Baker Middle School	Surveying St. Francisville
Monica Durapau	Eunice Elementary	Louisiana: A Fantastic Potpourri of French History
Becky Graves	Thomas Elementary School	Appreciating Washington Parish's Treasures
Carol Herbert	Kehoe-France School Southshore	The Blues and Civil Rights
Julie Matherne	Bourg Elementary	Louisiana's Heritage is HOT!
Martha K. Anderson	E. B. Williams Stoner Hill Elementary	The Quest for Coates Bluff: An Archaeological Adventure
Janet Nash	Donnie Bickam Middle School	A Journey into Louisiana's Past
Lucia Richardson	Baton Rouge International School	Plantations in Leonardv?





## Heritage Education Program

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A total of \$40,000 was awarded directly to these Louisiana school teachers, plus an additional 15% of the total to the SHPO as an administrative fee to manage the program.

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#### **PTT Heritage Education Coordinator**

Christine Thornburg recently joined NCPTT as the new Heritage Education program coordinator. Thornburg is a certified teacher in Louisiana, and recently taught at Pickering Middle School in Vernon Parish. She was a park ranger and fire program assistant at Crater Lake National Park and a NPS budget technician in Washington, DC. Thornburg earned her B.S. in Geography from Southern Oregon University and her M.A. in Education from Northwestern State University of Louisiana. In her new role with NCPTT, she will continue to further the program's goals of instilling stewardship, enhancing education, and creating a national model for heritage education.

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Dear Fellow Board Members,

I would like to propose a new type of activity for the NCPTT Board. To my knowledge, we have never undertaken a purely Board-organized initiative, independent of the normal staff activities of the Center. Instead of meeting twice a year and limiting ourselves to reacting to reports from the NPS cultural affairs directors, the Center's Exec. Dir. and the staff, why can't we perform some meaningful work on our own that would enhance the image of the Center and compliment the fine work being done by the staff. We, the Board, have a tremendous collective capability, covering the entire spectrum of preservation.

Toward this end, I would like to propose a small but high-level conference of preservation specialists from all of our respective fields (and other areas that we may not encompass) to focus on the question of Sustainability in Preservation. Sustainability practices have become a favorite rallying point in all of our areas of expertise within the past 10 or 15 years. Following these practices is a formal requirement in all NPS work as well as in most other governmental and institutional projects. But just where and what is the interface between sustainability and preservation? Are we ready to formalize such a relationship, to point out the natural symbiosis, to advocate specific rules and requirements regarding sustainable practices in preservation?

Obviously I think so. Sustainable design in engineering practice has been an abiding interest for me since the mid-1970's. How does the rest of the Board feel?

My specific proposal for a conference would be to hold it under the sponsorship of the Johnson Foundation (JF) at Wingspread in Racine, Wisconsin. This was Frank Lloyd Wright's largest house, now being used as a conference center. The JF has built a beautiful adjacent building to house participants during the conference. Meetings are held either in the Wingspread house or other buildings on the property. The JF does not provide funding – we would have to pay for travel and lodging costs (you pay to stay at Wingspread, but it is relatively affordable considering how nice it is). They do provide the venue as well as a tremendous amount of prestige. We can discuss costs and funding sources at the Board meeting. I have sent them a preliminary letter of inquiry which is attached. Their response was, on an informal basis, favorable. However this by no means guarantees their final acceptance of our proposal. For more information on the JF, see their website at [www.johnsonfdn.org](http://www.johnsonfdn.org)

After you have read the proposal, could you please come back to the following questions that they asked. I have not yet replied because I would first like to see if there is interest in this proposal from the Board. If so, I would like the response to the questions to be from the Board as a whole. Also, please make suggestions for any changes to the proposal. We should discuss this at the Board meeting rather than starting a whole train of e-mails.

1. How will we spend the time at the conference? How much will be developed at Wingspread? Specific guidelines? What is our vision of the final product (e.g. a 2 page summary or a 300 page spec.)? How the conference fits in to the whole process will prove its worthiness to the evaluating committee.



2. They have a constant concern about conferences trying to do too much. We should pick a tight focus and hone in on it. To them, having all disciplines represented sounded like it might be too ambitious for a 2-3 day conference.
3. What will be the level of authority for the end product? Will it be the same level as the Secretary's standards?
4. How will our end product be disseminated?

Thanks for reviewing this before you get to the meeting. Looking forward to seeing you all in New York, Sunday-Tuesday, Oct. 17-19.

Bob Silman

May 28, 2004

Steven T. Branca  
The Johnson Foundation  
33 East Four Mile Road  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Steven Branca:

I was sorry to have missed you when I visited Wingspread several weeks ago on April 26. But I was able to talk for a few minutes with Chris Beem who gave me some information and some tips about applying for a Wingspread conference.

Let me begin by saying that I am the Chairman-designate of the Advisory Board of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), an interdisciplinary program of the National Park Service located in Natchitoches, LA. I am presently Vice Chairman, but my term as Chairman begins in November of this year. NCPTT's mission, as its name implies, is to promote the preservation of historic and prehistoric resources through the advancement and dissemination of preservation training and technology. We reach both the preservation community and the public at large. NCPTT was established by act of Congress only some twelve years ago, so that we are only now beginning to see the results of the early years of planning and nurturing.

We are planning to organize a national conference of experts in our various program areas in order to focus on the topic of sustainability. NCPTT feels very strongly that the preservation of the environment, both built and natural, is one of the most appropriate ways of achieving our oft-stated national goals of preserving our heritage. In all of the political rhetoric of this election year, we hear nothing but proclamations from both sides about the importance of preserving this heritage – that is the stated purpose of our national actions, whatever they may be. Our built environment is an accurate reflection of our culture; its preservation must receive the highest priority. The preservation of the built environment is one of the single largest steps we can take in the realm of sustainability because it advocates the use of existing facilities, rather than construction of new.

With that as background, we would plan a conference by inviting three or four nationally known experts in each of our program areas – historic and cultural landscapes, materials research, preservation architecture and engineering, archaeology and collections. Building on the theme of sustainability, we would convene a day-long session of three or four such experts meeting in individual groups, each teamed with one staff member and one or two Board member from NCPTT. On the second day, all of the groups would meet together in a single session, pooling the ideas from many different areas of expertise.

We hope that as a result of this Wingspread conference we would develop preservation and sustainability strategies and doctrines, policy decisions if you will, that are derived from the experience of expert practitioners in their fields. These would not be doctrinaire statements or political espousals, but rather really practical techniques for achieving maximal end results with minimal expenditure of resources. The proceedings would form a manual for action in each of the program areas, hopefully looking at new ideas, not retreading the old. The summary statements would be useful as policy tools for decision-makers in the realm of sustainability. As the new science of sustainability becomes more established, we need a “second generation” of thinking in order to accomplish the goals set forth by the first generation. We feel that now is the opportune time to set forth these tactics.

We would like to apply to the Johnson Foundation for support for holding such a conference. The imprimatur of a Wingspread conference lends so much more importance and weight to its findings and outcome. We realize that most of the funding for travel and lodging would have to be provided by NCPTT or a co-sponsor that we might find for the conference.

Being able to meet in the environment of Wingspread would mean a great deal to us. After all it is one of the great historic homes of America. Meeting in a Frank Lloyd Wright setting is so appropriate for an agency of the National Park Service that is dedicated to the advancement of preservation technology. The guidelines for preservation of landmark buildings are, of course, written by our parent, the Department of the Interior through its Secretary. Our firm were the structural engineers that designed the high tech repairs to the roofs of Wingspread using carbon fiber thin shells, some seven years ago. I recently revisited the house while in Wisconsin to deliver the Monona Terrace Lecture in Madison, talking about Frank Lloyd Wright and the need for structural repairs in his buildings. Lois Berg was kind enough to show my wife and me around the house, so I could do a post-construction inspection. We are also monitoring some of the problems at the Research Tower at the S.C. Johnson office site in downtown Racine. We hope that Boyd Gibbons might endorse this application, since he once served as a Deputy Under Secretary in the Department of the Interior and must be quite sympathetic to that Department's activities and needs.

I have personally had a good deal of experience in developing new ideas in the realm of sustainable design. I formed the original Working Commission on Sustainable Engineering for the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE), a Zurich-based organization of more than 4,000 structural engineers from 100 countries. IABSE has just informed me that I have been selected to receive their Anton Tedesko Medal at their next annual meeting in Shanghai in September for my work in leading them in sustainable causes and securing passage of a statement of ethics regarding members participating in projects only if they promote sustainable principles. I also developed the original course in sustainable design for the Graduate School of Architecture at Columbia University and, in addition, served as a charter member of the committee that wrote the Guidelines for Environmentally Responsible Capital Projects for New York City, one of the first municipal strategies of its kind.

Before we go to the effort of preparing a full scale application for a Wingspread conference, I thought it prudent to inquire whether you thought this idea had any chance of approval. Since

sustainability is within your program area, I am directing this inquiry to you. I do hope that you will give us a positive and encouraging response.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Silman  
Vice Chairman, Advisory Board,  
National Center for Preservation Technology and Training

cc: Kirk Cordell, Executive Director, NCPTT  
Roy Graham, Chairman of Advisory Board, NCPTT

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## Wingspread Conference Outline

### Preservation and Sustainability – An Examination of Policy

#### GOALS:

To discuss and examine the parallel tracks of preservation of the built environment (including buildings, monuments, landscapes, archaeology and artifacts) and sustainability (as we currently broadly define it: Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. *Mrs. Brundtland*). To see where these two issues intersect and where they reinforce each other. To determine and recommend measures by which a more formal statement of policy might be drafted so that the broadest community may understand this symbiotic relationship and the need to foster it. Further to recommend that those engaged in the work of preservation be encouraged or even required to follow certain procedures that will guarantee the furtherance of the principles of sustainability in their practice.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOME:

A formal declaration or “charter” that announces principles of sustainability that should or must be practiced by the preservation community.

#### CONFERENCE FORMAT:

A two day conference is envisioned, with preparatory work being undertaken by participants prior to arrival. The first half day will be devoted to introduction, overarching principles that apply to all facets of preservation and sustainability; perhaps a keynote speaker will lead this session. The second part of the first day will be devoted to break-out groups of sub-specialists, discussing their own particular aspects of the issues.

The morning of the second day will be a scramble of break-out groups where multi-disciplines will be mixed together. The afternoon of the second day will be devoted to drafting a statement or charter that will be the publicly disseminated outcome of the conference.

#### PARTICIPANTS:

All Board members who wish will participate, each being assigned to a specialist group in their area of expertise. Selected staff members from the Center will also be asked to join. Invited guests will be specialists, ideally having keen insights into the issues of both sustainability and preservation. In some cases, these specialists may have experience weighing more heavily on one side or the other. There will be a moderator or leader who will direct the proceedings and keep the conference to schedule and purpose.

The total numbers of participants may therefore look something like the following:

Board members	8
Staff	4
Invited guests	16
Moderator/leader	<u>1</u>
Total	29

According to the staff at Wingspread, this number is feasible, but may even be a little large for our purposes.

#### PROPOSED PROGRAM:

##### Day 0

Board and Staff members arrive at Milwaukee Airport in late afternoon. Check into motel near Airport and have dinner together that evening.

##### Day 1

- a. All-day Board meeting at venue in Milwaukee; possibly in hotel meeting room.
- b. Guests and Moderator arrive at Milwaukee Airport in afternoon. All are picked up by Wingspread at Milwaukee for transportation to Racine.
- c. All check in to Wingspread Conference Center and attend welcoming dinner at Center.

##### Day 2

- a. Morning – Breakfast together at Center. Introduction by Moderator. Procedures, methodology, intent. Keynote address. Establishment of break-out groups.
- b. Late morning – Tour of FLW Wingspread House and Grounds.
- c. Lunch at Center
- d. Afternoon – Breakout groups meet, discuss and establish priorities for their input to final statement. At end of afternoon, have each break-out group list their priorities.
- e. Cocktail hour social
- f. Dinner at Center. After dinner entertainment ?

##### Day 3

- a. Morning – Breakfast together at Center. Scramble break-out groups to mix the disciplines. Examine and question the priorities from the day before. At end of morning, have each break-out group discuss any revisions to their priorities.
- b. Lunch at Center.
- c. Afternoon – Develop draft of statement or “Wingspread Charter” on Preservation and Sustainability.”
- d. Dinner at Center.
- e. Leave time after dinner if there is any unfinished ‘work’.

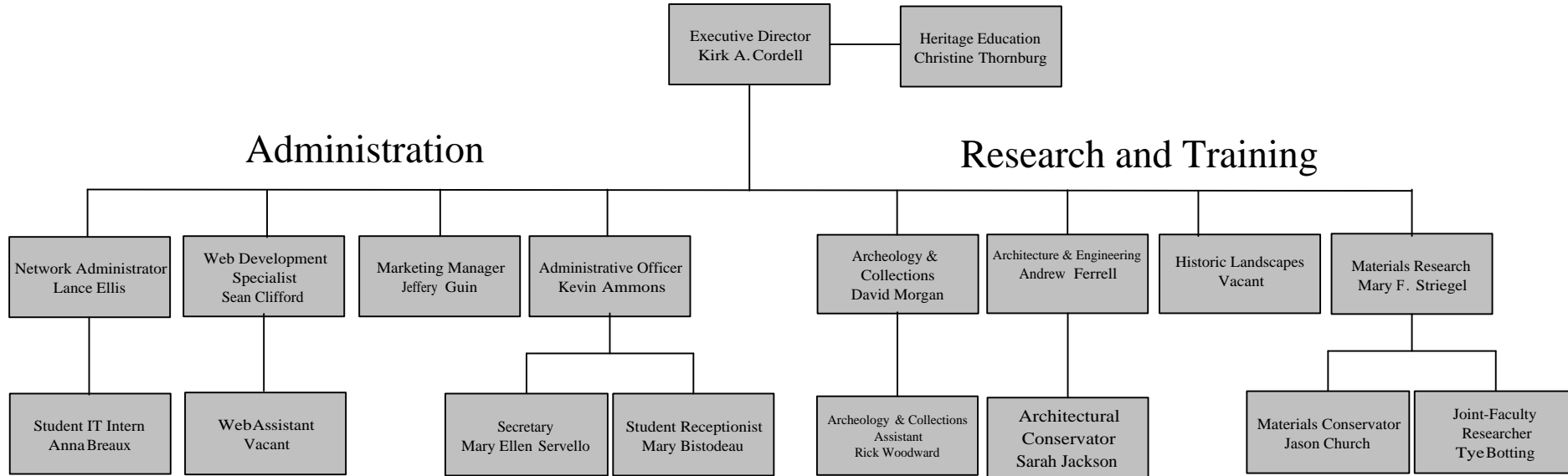
Day 4

- a. Breakfast together at Center. Farewells.
- b. Morning – Transportation to Milwaukee Airport provided by Wingspread.



# NCPTT Organization

Fall, 2006



Additional short-term interns are hired intermittently during the year.

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